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### Library Economy and Bibliography

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#### Office of "THE PUBLISHERS' WEEKLY,"

FRANKLIN SQUARE (330 PEARL STREET),

### THE LIBRARY IOURNAL.

VOL. 12.

AUGUST, 1887.

No. 8.

C: A. CUTTER, R: R. BOWKER, Editors,

WE print in this number a concurrent resolution of the California State Legislature, and circularletter of the State Librarian, inviting a conference of State Librarians, for the purposes set forth. Very few State Librarians have manifested any interest in library work, and fewer still are members of the American Library Association, so that the majority of them know nothing of what the Association has accomplished or is doing in the lines indicated. Any movement that will arouse a general interest among those heretofore inattentive to the work they might be doing, will lead to good results. We are of the opinion, however, that much more effective work can be done with and through the organized committees of the Association, than by holding a separate conference. Each State Librarian could exercise far more influence upon his State Legislature if supported by the prestige of the Association, and backed by the influence of five or ten active librarians, members of the Association, in his own State. Possibly an esprit du corps can be awakened by holding a separate conference, as proposed, but the united efforts of all librarians will be needed to move some State Legislatures to action. The State Librarians, we are sure, would be heartily welcomed by the American Library Association to membership, and would receive its hearty support in all matters relating to improved library laws and library work. We hope all of them who can will accept a cordial invitation to attend the conference to be held at the Thousand Islands, opening August 30.

All that the resolutions aim at, and very much more, can be better accomplished by the State Librarians meeting as a section of the American Library Association, than in an independent conference. The matters of special interest to themselves can be discussed in their section meeting, while the papers and discussions at the sessions of the Association will be an additional advantage, and will reveal to the majority of State Librarians a field for work and usefulness of which their past record shows a woful lack of knowledge.

We have copied in our Bibliographical department part of the circular of the Spaulding Club,

increased diligence in enriching their libraries, by gathering up the materials of history past and present. The preparation of local bibliographies too, is a by no means uninteresting amusement. but, alas, we do not know any librarians who have the time to indulge in such diversions,

THE generous donation, which we chronicle elsewhere, made by Mr. Albert I, Iones to the Providence Public Library, of 670 volumes, has a peculiar interest. He gave the books during his life, instead of bequeathing them, and he gave them to a library that he had never seen. But he was an attendant of the Conference of Librarians in 1853, not indeed as a librarian, but as a representative of the Providence Athenaum, Thirty-three years afterwards he gives his wellselected library to the public. The sacred fire of love for libraries, once kindled, was not extinguished. This may give a hint to the managers of our present conventions, to try to attract to them as large a number as possible of the many outsiders who have a nascent interest in the subject. The seed then sown may not grow into fruit-bearing trees in our time, but some of it is sure to give fruit to our successors.

IN 1881 Messrs, Macmillan & Bowes, of Cambridge, England, issued a reproduction of the sixth of the eight books printed by John Siberch, the first Cambridge printer, Linacre's Latin version of Galeni de temperamentis. Besides its typographical claims to be reprinted, it had a literary interest as the production of one of the most learned scholars of the age of the revival of learning, and a medical interest, because Linacre was founder of the College of Physicians, and because the revival of the study of Galen, which this volume greatly fostered, made an epoch in the history of medicine. But all that issued from Siberch's press has a value, because no books were printed at Cambridge for sixty years after he ceased publishing. As he issued so few books, and those few are scarce (of one only a single copy is known), Messrs. Macmillan & Bowes wish to reprint the whole, and have already reproduced in facsimile, besides the Galen (price a guinea), 150 copies of (1) an oration of H: Bullock, (2) Cujusdam fidelis Christiani epistola, subseguibecause it may suggest to our country librarians | tur Augustini oratio, and Papyrii Eleatis Hermathena seu de eloquentiæ victoria, these three for a guinea. The other four will be issued for two guineas. We regret to say that the three just published do not equal the Galen in intrinsic interest. Indeed, it is difficult to believe that any one but the editor and the proofreader will ever get through either of them. Yet it is pleasant to look upon these mementoes of early learning and the art preservative of arts, and it is to be hoped that the publishers will get sufficient encouragement to continue the series.

It is not perhaps a very important question whether a Cambridge printer who issued eight volumes in two years published the Augustine before or after the Lucian, the Galen before or after the Erasmus. But neither is it of supreme importance to the world to decide whether the flexor and extensor muscles in the arms and legs of eight young men who are studying at Cambridge are stronger than the muscles belonging to eight other young men who happen to be getting their education at Oxford. Yet thousands will flock to see this question decided on which nothing depends, which decides no principle. Let no one then accuse Mr. Henry Bradshaw, librarian of Cambridge, of frittering away his time more than the rest of mankind, for that he made journeys and spent long hours in the microscopically careful examination of the different copies of Siberch's works, and in getting together evidence from broken letters and the absence or presence of certain devices or of errors of the press, and in drawing inferences from what he observed. His data are collected so carefully and set forth so neatly, so as to convey their own lesson, that it is a pleasure to read as it is a pleasure to see any honest and skilful work.

#### A PROPOSED EXCURSION FOR WEST-ERN LIBRARIANS,

The following circular-letter signed by Messrs. W. F. Poole, K. A. Linderfelt, and F. H. Hild has been addressed to the Western Librarians. It may be stated here that the "outside" trip, taking in the sail on the ocean, etc., was planned by the A. L. A. committee largely to give the Western friends an opportunity to relieve the monotony of railroad travel. And thus far, we understand, a number of Western librarians have already made arrangements which include the round trip described in our last issue.

The route proposed by Messrs. Poole, Linderfelt, and Hild is as follows:

Leave Chicago Aug. 26 or 27 at 3:10 o'clock, p.m. via the Michigan Central R. R., arrive at Niagara Falls the following day at 6:30 a.m., and arrive at Round Island (where the meeting is to be held) at 8 p.m. Those who desire to remain at Niagara during the day, can leave at 8:10 p.m. and arrive at Round Island at 7 a.m. Another train leaves Chicago via the same route, at 8:15 p.m., arriving at Niagara at 2 p.m. the next day, and making the same connections as before mentioned.

Saturday, Sept. 3, the Western excursionists will accompany the Eastern ocean-voyagers down the Rapids of the St. Lawrence to Montreal, and also via steamer to Quebec. On Tuesday Sept. 6, the two parties will separate, the Western returning via Canada Pacific R. R. to Ottawa and stopping to visit the libraries and public institutions. On Wednesday, Sept. 7, arrive at Toronto, where the officers of the Public Library will extend courtesies. On Thursday, Sept. 8, cross Lake Ontario to Niagara. On Friday, Sept. 9, an opportunity will be give to make a side trip to Buffalo to inspect the new library building of the Buffalo Library, the entire cost of the round trip being one dollar. Those who wish to do so can come West on the evening train and arrive at Chicago Saturday evening. All the hotel abatements mentioned in the LIBRARY JOURNAL apply to this excursion.

The cost of the round trip over the whole route described, from Chicago and return, is \$38. Cost of round trip tickets from Detroit is \$30. Ticket-holders can stop over anywhere on the route, and return at any time before Oct. 31. These special tickets are issued by the Michigan Central R. R. without reference to the number which will be taken. These rates do not include sleeper-berths, but if enough sleeper-tickets be taken for a single train, a special sleeper will be furnished. It is recommended that as many persons as find it convenient take the 3:10 p.m. train Aug. 27.

It is desired that applications for sleeping-car accommodations be sent in early, that ample provisions may be made for all. Round trip tickets and sleeping-car accommodations may be procurred by addressing Mr. L. D. Heusner, Passenger and Ticket Agent, M. C. R. R., 67 Clark St., Chicago, or, C. M. Warren, P. and T. A., M. C. R. R., at Detroit.

Mr. F. H. Hild, Chicago Public Library, will reply to inquiries for further information, and will procure and forward tickets to parties who will send him the necessary funds.

#### WILLIAM FREDERICK POOLE.

BY WM. I. FLETCHER, Librarian of Amherst College.

FORTY years ago, librarianship was hardly known as a profession. Most of the librarians of that day were men who had drifted into the pursuit from some other occupation late in life. To few, if any, was it the chosen life-work. Few of those who acted as librarians in the colleges saw in the work which was giving them a lift with their college expenses the "promise and potency" of a profession, or did aught to relieve it from the direst perfunctoriness. Now librarianship has come to be recognized as a profession demanding and compensating first-rate abilities, and rivalling almost any other as a pursuit for college-bred men. Few have done more to elevate and dignify this profession, and at the same time, by the application of "uncommon commonsense," to develop it along the lines of practical utility, than the subject of this sketch.

William Frederick Poole was born in Salem, Mass., Dec. 24, 1821. His ancestry was of the oldest Massachusetts stock, having been settled in Cambridge as early as 1632, in the person of John Poole, who came from Reading, England, and who became the leading proprietor in the settlement of Reading, Mass., in 1635. William F. is in the eighth generation from this pioneer, and his parents were Ward and Eliza (Wilder) Poole. The house in which he was born (and it has never been moved) was then in Salem; but by changes of town lines and names it has since been in three other towns: Danvers, South Danvers, and Peabody. His early education was in the common schools of Danvers. Between his · twelfth and seventeenth years he was out of school, learning the jeweller's trade in Keene, N. H., then tilling the soil with his father, who was then residing in Worcester, and finally back to Danvers, possessing himself of the ancestral craft of tanning, and so acquiring a familiarity with leathers, which has served him in good stead in his later years in a different pursuit.

Finding himself not quite at home either as jeweller, farmer, or tanner, he got back to his books, and his seventeenth birthday found him fitting for college in Leicester Academy. Entering Yale College in 1842, he was obliged to drop his studies at the end of freshman year to seek funds with which to complete his course. The next three years were devoted to teaching for

this purpose, and then he returned to Yale, entering as sophomore in 1846, and graduating in the class of 1849, President Dwight being one of his classmates.

Near the end of his sophomore year he was appointed assistant librarian of his society, the Brothers in Unity, which had a library of about 10,000 volumes. This was indeed the small end of the wedge, but it was an opening, and he soon developed the capacity of making the most of it. After a very few months in the practical work of the library he recognized the need of some kind of an index to the bound sets of periodicals with which the library was well supplied, and with that diligence in the use of spare moments which is so characteristic of the man, he set to work to meet this demand. A written index for use in the library was all he contemplated, but it proved to be so great a convenience that others wanted it, and its printing was demanded. It was therefore published in 1848, in 154 pages 8vo. The edition was soon exhausted, and the public called for more. During his senior year he made a good beginning on a new and enlarged edition, which was published in 1853, with 521 pages, to be followed in its turn in 1882 by the third edition in 1460 pages, royal 8vo, prepared with the coöperation of the American Library Association and the Library Association of the United King-

Mr. Poole became librarian of his society in his senior year, and remained in the library some months after his graduation. In 1851 he became assistant librarian of the Boston Athenæum, and the next year librarian of the Boston Mercantile Library. During his four years in that position he prepared and printed a dictionary catalogue of the library, on the "title-a-line" principle which has been so widely followed since, and also brought out the second edition of his Index to Periodical Literature.

From 1856 till January, 1869, he was librarian of the Boston Athenaum, the largest library in the city until the rapid growth of the Public Library threw it into the background near the end of that period. During his administration, with the able assistance of Mr. Charles Russell Lowell (a brother of James Russell), the excellent catalogue of the library, since printed in

five large volumes, was begun, and was completed by his successor.

On leaving the Athenæum Dr. Poole was occupied the next year as a library expert, with several assistants, in the organization of the Bronson Library, Waterbury, Conn., and the Athenæum Library at St. Johnsbury, Vt., also giving assistance in similar work at Newton and Easthampton, Mass., and in the library of the U. S. Naval Academy at Annapolis, Md. His services were engaged in the same capacity for the Public Library of Cincinnati in the autumn of the year 1869, after which he became librarian and remained there until Dec. 1873, when he was elected librarian of the Public Library of Chicago, then about starting. Entering upon his duties there in January, 1874, he saw the institution through all the troubles and perils of its early existence, fostered its marvellous growth in usefulness and popularity, and presided over its present era of unexampled success. During all these later years, he has constantly been called on for advice and assistance in the formation and management of libraries throughout the country, especially in the Northwest, where his influence in favor of the public library system has been great.

Dr. Poole has always been among the foremost to recognize the value of concerted action among librarians to advance the interests of their work. He was a member of the convention of librarians held in New York City in September, 1853, which was the first meeting of the kind in this country, and probably the first in the world. At the organization of the American Library Association, in 1876, he was made one of its Vice-Presidents, continuing in that office until his election in 1885 to the Presidency of the Association. He was one of the party from this country attending the first Conference of English librarians in London in 1877, and was a Vice-President of that meeting. He has been present at every meeting of the American Library Association and contributed largely to the papers and discussions. He has given special attention to library architecture, and his several papers on this subject have attracted much attention both in this country and in Europe. He may be called the leader in the present movement for practical utility and convenience in library buildings as opposed to the old conventional style in which use had been sacrificed to impressiveness of architectural effect. In the latest edition of the Encyclopædia Britannica his papers on this subject are accepted as of the highest authority. A list of his writings on this

subject appeared in the LIBRARY JOURNAL for September, 1885, appended to a paper by him on "Small Library Buildings."

In other departments of library management he has manifested no less activity and fertility of practical ideas. The "Report on Public Libraries" issued in 1876 by the U. S. Bureau of Education contains several papers by him, prominent among them one on "The Organization and Management of Public Libraries," which gives practical directions on all essential points connected with this work, and is generally recognized as a standard authority on the subject.

Nor has the work of his pen been confined to the immediate precincts of his profession. Being intensely interested in historical studies, especially in connection with early American history, first of New England and then of the West, he has for thirty years been a constant writer for the periodical press on subjects connected with these studies. Controverting the charges brought against the New England clergy of fomenting the witchcraft persecution, he published several articles in 1865-60 which arrested general attention, chief among which was the one called "Cotton Mather and Salem Witchcraft" in the North American Review, April, 1869. The same theme was assigned to him by the editors of the Memorial History of Boston and he wrote the chapter of that work called "Witchcraft in Boston."

In the North American Review also appeared his articles on "The Popham Colony," Oct., 1868, and "The Ordinance of 1787," April, 1876, the former intended to dispose of the Maine claims to priority of settlement over Massachusetts, and the latter giving for the first time the secret history of the famous Ordinance.

In 1874-5 he edited, in Chicago, a literary monthly called *The Owl*, and since the starting of *The Dial* in 1880, he has been a constant contributor, chiefly in historical criticism. In this department his work has always been in the nature of a plea for judicial fairness and candor in historical writing, and his pen has constantly been on the alert to discover and expose the pet fallacies of the vilifiers of the fathers of New England, and of all those with whom the demands of rhetoric seem louder than those of truth.

Dr. Poole is now the President of the American Historical Association and of the American Library Association, member of the American Antiquarian Society and of the Essex Institute, and corresponding member of the Historical Societies of Massachusetts. New York. Pennsyl-



W: F: POOLE.



vania, Maryland, Wisconsin, and several other States. He received the honorary degree of LL.D. from the Northwestern University in 1882.

His personal qualities are such as to contribute largely to the success he has achieved. Of commanding and yet affable and pleasing address, he combines in a rare degree the force needed for large executive responsibilities with the tact and suavity which secure the hearty loyalty and the affection of his subordinates. He has imparted his own enthusiasm and his eminently practical views in library work to a large number of those who are now filling places of importance in the library profession, having served their apprenticeship under him.

Just as these last lines are written comes the news that Dr. Poole has been elected Librarian of the Newberry Library in Chicago, and has accepted the position. This library is a new institution on a foundation of nearly three millions of dollars, given under the will of the late Walter L. Newberry, of Chicago, and is to be a library of reference. Excepting (possibly) the Tilden Trust of New York, which is yet in a state of uncertainty, this is much the most liberal foundation held by any public library in the United States. Its librarian has a position of responsibility and of opportunity unequaled in the profession. In appointing Dr. Poole to this position the Trustees have but justified the reasonable expectations of all who know him.

#### "MATÉRIAUX POUR L'HISTOIRE."

It is currently thought that some of our contemporaries are the inventors of sufficiently lavish systems of library economy; but it would seem as if they had been anticipated some centuries ago by no less a person than the son of the discoverer of America himself. As a professional biographer, straining after a comparison, would very likely put it, "the desire to discover a shorter route to the wealth of the Indies, which inflamed the adventurous spirit of the father and resulted in the discovery of a new world, became in the son a desire to discover the shortest way to the wealth contained in libraries, and resulted in finding a new system of library economy."

The book in which this priority of invention is clearly established is the "Excerpta Colombiniana," by Henry Harrisse (Paris, 1887), which contains, with other matter, a history of the Biblioteca Colombina in Seville, and a life of its founder, Fernando Colombo. An appendix to the work enumerates the catalogues of the library which were projected by its founder and gives a full description by his last librarian, Juan Perez, of the system followed in their preparation. The scheme contemplated four catalogues: an alphabetical author-catalogue, a classified subject-catalogue, a catalogue of résumés, and a table of subjects. Harrisse has made an abstract of the long explanation by Perez - of the system of signs designed by Colombo for these various catalogues. At the beginning of a title there was a series of underlined numbers, followed by an underlined letter, another underlined number, a number enclosed on three sides, and a number entirely enclosed. Thus, in this title, "Erasmi adagia seu proverbia .2466, 12910. b. 1533.

3434. | 3120 ," the explanation shows that 2466 was the volume number, 12910, the number of a duplicate, b. that the book was printed at Basel, 1533 the date of imprint, | 3434 | the class number in the catalogue of subjects, 3120 | the number under which a description of the contents was to be sought in the catalogue of résumés. In addition to the series of numbers there were at least seventy-nine different signs to be used in common by all of the catalogues. These characters, given in fac-simile by Harrisse, take the form of circles, squares, crosses, gibbets, gridirons, dumb-bells, questionable mice, rigid-looking comets, etc., and in general reveal an art which had scarcely vet freed itself from the conventional. There were signs to indicate the first and last words of a book, the presence of a prologue, dedicatory epistle, epigram, index, alphabetical or other tables, the size, number of sheets, number of leaves to the sheet, lines running across the page, lines printed in two or three columns, number of chapters, summaries, language, a translation, apology, criticism, whether prose, verse, or mixed, etc., and finally letters to show whether the subject was treated briefly, fully, or diffusely.

We are told that, to add to the confusion, some of the catalogues each had a system of signs of its own, besides the seventy-nine or more which were used in common. Of these economical devices Harrisse says: "If all this shows a methodical mind it also betrays a finical spirit which has complicated matters by trying to economize too much. Thus, in one of these catalogues, a title might be burdened with four numbers and twenty-five conventional signs, whose meaning it was almost impossible to remember." Y.

#### CONFERENCE OF STATE LIBRARIANS.

WE print below copies of the circular-letter sent out by Talbot H. Wallis, librarian of the California State Library, and of the resolution relating to a conference of State librarians. Mr. Wallis, in transmitting the following, writes:

" It is useless for me to enumerate the many benefits to be derived from such a meeting of State Librarians, as you are already aware of the importance of such a conference. However, I do desire to call your attention to the fact that it is the opinion of myself and many other State Librarians that the conference should be called to meet separate and apart from the American Library Association, for the reasons expressed in the circular and many others not necessary to mention. At the same time I do not want it understood that I am at all antagonistic to the American Library Association, but realize fully the great benefits conferred upon Public Libraries through the medium of its meetings and work, and after the special purposes for which the conference of State Librarians is called are accomplished, I shall favor its adjournment sine die as such, to thereafter meet with the American Library Association, and I shall strive to have the expenses of State Librarians paid, for the purpose of attending the meetings of the latter, and of aiding in its support.'

The following is the text of the circular-letter: The Legislature of California, at its last session, adopted resolutions relating to a conference of the State Librarians of all the States in the Union, together with a preamble setting forth, in a general way, some of the benefits which would result from such a conference.

By the terms of the second resolution I am directed officially "to communicate with the Librarians of the various States, with a view of organizing such a conference, and providing for the time and place of meeting." It is in pursuance of this resolution, and to secure your cooperation in accomplishing the objects contemplated by the Legislature of California, that I now have the honor to address you.

It has been suggested that a conference such as that now proposed be held in conjunction with the American Library Association. I am of the opinion that no substantial benefits would result to these State institutions from such a united conference. The laws and rules governing the public libraries of the country not under State control differ radically from those of the latter, and from each other. What it is desirable to bring about, if practicable, is the enactment by the Legislatures of the various States having these State institutions an approximatey uniform system of laws, usages, and rules for their government, management, and control. The advantages which would result from such a system, and the disadvantages consequent upon the want of it, are obvious; and it is equally obvious that such a system will never be established except through the energetic co-operation of those having these State institutions in charge. One great disderatum in all State libraries is a complete set of the

etc., published by authority of the Federal Government, and of the several States; and this is due to the want of proper laws in each State providing for a uniform system of exchange. In most cases where there is any law at all upon the subject, provision is made for the transmission of such matter to the Governor, Secretary of State, or some State official other than the Librarian, and it is only through the courtesy of the former that these publications can find their way into the State Library; and thus it often occurs that the most valuable State publications are lost to these institutions. Works of this character are essential to the completeness and utility of every public library. They are seldom found in book-stores, and their distribution should be under the control of the State Librarians, and it should be made a part of their official duty to see that they are properly addressed and promptly forwarded to every State Library in the Union.

The prevailing mode of title-paging and indexing public documents, and even private publications, is exceedingly perfunctory, inaccurate, and misleading. To such an extent is this criticism true that the index of a public document often affords no reliable guide at all to its contents, while a confiding purchaser is often and fraudulently beguiled into the purchase of a publication materially different in character from that indicated by its title-page.

Legislative provision for the more liberal maintenance and support of these institutions would constitute an important subject for the consideration of the proposed conference. In some of the States they are supported by appropriations covering a given period of time. Experience has amply shown that this provisional system of support is grossly inadequate. The appropriations are usually made in lump sums, and without any reference to the constantly increasing needs of the library; they are usually exhausted long before the Legislature again convenes, and the succeeding appropriation is rarely, if ever, sufficient to supply the deficiency of standard publications issued in the interval, and to meet present and future demands. To keep a library abreast with the times, there should be a continually accumulating fund devoted to its use. This has been provided in California by requiring the Secretary of State to pay into the State Treasury, monthly, all fees of his office, and they are set apart to a fund known as the "State Library Fund." By this means all standard publications are added to the accumulations of the Library as fast as they are issued, and it is kept up to the highest point of usefulness and excellence.

As to the time and place of the meeting of the proposed conference, this of course can only be determined upon a full interchange of the opinions and preferences of the several State Librarians. While I should with alacrity acquiesce in the expressed view and choice of a majority of them, I venture to suggest that, on many accounts, the city of Washington would be the most advantageous place, and the month of April or May, 1888, a practicable time, of meeting. By convening there, the Librarians would have the benefit of consultation with the Hon. A. R. Spofford, now Public Documents, Reports, Laws, Transactions and for many years past Librarian of the Congressional Library; and his suggestions and advice could not fail to be of great value in the deliberations of the conference; moreover, each Librarian would then see for himself the vast number and variety of public documents now lost to each State Library from the General Government by reason of the indifference of the State, or its inability, under the existing system of exchange, to procure them. I deem it proper to add in this connection that the proposed conference meets with the cordial approbation of Mr. Spofford, and am assured that he would meet with it if held in Washington, and lend it all the assistance in his power.

In concluding this communication, permit me to urge upon you the action on the part of the State Librarians proposed by the Legislature of California, and to solicit your earnest co-operation in the accomplishment of the salutary ends in view. I have addressed a like communication to each State Librarian in the Union, and requested, as I now respectfully request of you, an early reply, conveying your views as to the practicability and expediency of the conference proposed, and, if favorable thereto, your preference as to the time and place of convening it.

I have the honor to be your obedient servant,

ASSEMBLY CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 4.

Relating to a Conference of State Librarians, Passed February 24, 1887.

Whereas, The officers of the Public Libraries of the United States, other than State Libraries, through the medium of the American Library Association, have succeeded, in a large measure, in securing uniformity of methods and administration among the libraries they have represented; have been greatly benefited by exchange of ideas and the publication of individual experience in regard to cataloguing, binding, lighting, shelving, building-construction, circulation, exchanges, and disposition of duplicates; have derived great advantage from their joint and combined efforts to secure a liberal distribution of public documents, a reduction of postage rates, and freedom from duty on foreign books purchased for the use of public libraries; and have in other ways been able to accomplish much for the present and permanent good of library institutions; and whereas we believe a similar organization on the part of State Librarians would result in similar benefit to the State Libraries: would place them on a higher plane, and add much to their character and general usefulness, and might and would be made the medium of securing similarity of laws relating to foreign exchanges, uniformity of public reports, and of printing, binding, and indexing the same; and a more liberal and uniform policy of domestic exchange and distribution, to the end that each State may more readily profit by the experience of her sister States; now, therefore,

Resolved by the Assembly of the State of California, the Senate concurring, That the State of California appeals to her sister States and Territories to join with her, through their Legislatures, Librarians, Library Trustees, or executive officers,

in the promotion of a conference of State Librarians for taking such steps as in their judgment will result in permanent benefit to State Libraries in the matters above mentioned; that in the judgment of this Legislature, the expenses of each member at such conference should be borne by the State or Library which he represents.

Resolved, That the Librarian of the California State Library be and is hereby directed to communicate with the Librarians of the various States, with a view of organizing such a conference, and providing for the time and place of meeting.

Resolved, That his Excellency Washington Bartlett, Governor of the State of California, be requested to forward to each State in the Union three copies of these resolutions, as follows: one copy to the Secretary of State, one to the Governor, and one to the State Librarian.

#### LIBRARY ACT OF 1700.

THE following is a verbatim copy from a book entitled "Abridgement of the laws in force in her Majesty's plantation. London, 1704:"

SOUTH CAROL. SS. PROVINCIAL LIBRARY.

The Preamble of the Act recites, That whereas at the Promotion of the Reverend Dr. Bray, and by the Encouragement and Bounty of the Lords Proprietors, and the Inhabitants of the Province, a Library hath been sent Over to this Province for the Publick use; for securing the Books it is Enacted.

The Library shall Be, Continue and Remain in the Custody and Keeping of the Minister of Charles Town, for the time being, who is bound to keep the said Library from Waste, Damage and Imbezilment, and all other Destruction, and to be accountable for the same, fire and unavoidable Accidents excepted.

The Minister for the Time being, at his coming to the Place, shall pass two Warrants, One to the Commissioners, and One to the Church-Wardens, in which the Names and Titles of every Book shall be Inserted, and in case of Embezilment of all or any part of the Books, the Incumbent shall forfeit and pay double the Value of them.

The Commissioners are Empowered to Sue for the Damage, and the Money recovered to be disposed within Twelve Months for the Compleating the Library.

In Case of the Death of the Minister Incumbent, the Church Wardens for the Time being are to take the Library into their keeping, and to be accountable to the Commissioners.

The Church-Wardens on taking the Library into their Custody are to compare it with the Receits formerly given, and if any Books are wanting or Damnified, they shall give an Account of it to the Commissioners within twenty Days, and if the Church Wardens refuse to give such Account, they shall be accountable for the whole, as if no Damage or Imbezilment had been made.

Any Inhabitant may borrow any Book out of the Library giving a Note under his Hand, acknowledging the Receit, and promising to return it, if a Folio in 4 Months, Quartoes in 2 Months, Octavo's or under in one Month, upon the Penalty of Paying 3 times the Value in Case of a Failure or Damnifying the Book.

The Incumbent is obliged to keep a Book in which he shall enter the Receits for all Books borrowed, and when returned shall note it returned, but not Cross or Blot the Book.

If a Book borrow'd be Damnified or refus'd to be returned, the Commissioners may levy three times the Value by Distress, and for want of such Commit the Person to Prison till Satisfaction be made.

Seven Catalogues of the Books shall be made, One shall be sent to the Lords Proprietors of the Province, to England, One to the Lord Bishop of London, One to Dr. Bray, One to be Recorded in the Secretaries Office of the Province, One shall remain in the Custody of the Commissioners, under which the Incumbent shall sign a Receipt for the Books; One to be in the Custody of the Church Wardens under which the Incumbent shall also sign a Receipt, and one to be fairly entred in a Book for that purpose, and to be kept by the Incumbent in the said Library for any Person to read.

The Commissioners are Empowred to value and rate every Book in the Library which Appraisement shall be the standing Rule to Judge of the Value of any Book, in case of Suit, for the loss or Damnifying any Book.

The Commissioners to Visit the Library, on the 5th of November every Year, and Examine the Books by the Catalogue.

All Persons borrowing any Books are to return them by the 26 of October.

The Commissioners are to be Nine, the first are Named in the Act, and in Case of Death, the Governour for the time Being, is to Nominate others who are to continue till the next General Assembly onely.

The Commissioners on a view, if any Book lent abroad be not restor'd at the time of the Viewing the Library, may summon the Persons who borrowed them, to restore the same in twenty Days on pain of paying the penalty of 3 times the Value of the Book.

All Persons who have any of the Library Books in Hand at the making the Act, are to restore them by the first of January on like Penalty.

This Act read and ratified 16 November 1700.

The Rev. Dr. Bray mentioned above appears to have been a pioneer library missionary. Stephen's Dictionary of national biography is responsible for the following facts: Through Bray's instrumentality "no less than 39 libraries, some containing more than 1000 volumes, were established in North America during his lifetime, and upwards of So in England and Wales." He also interested himself in founding scaport libraries. "In 1709 he had the gratification of seeing an act passed for the better preservation of parochial libraries in England."

His contributions to the literature of library science are as follows: "An essay towards promoting all necessary & useful knowledge, both divine & human, in all parts of his Majesty's dominions." 1697.—" Bibliotheca parochialis, or a scheme of such theological heads as are requisite to be studied by every pastor of a parish." 1697. 2d ed. 1707.—" Bibliotheca catechetica, or the County curates library." 1702.—" Primordia bibliothecaria."

#### LITTLETON TOWN HALL AND LIBRARY.

THE Littleton Town Hall and the Reuben Hoar Library were dedicated July 28, the exercises beginning at half-past one o'clock. The sum of \$10,000 was given to the library by Mr. W. S. Houghton, of Boston, \$5000 for the purchase of books, and an equal sum as a fund to replenish the library, on condition that the library be called the Reuben Hoar Library, and that the town give the remaining sum required for a library and town hall. The principal address was made by Hon. John D. Long. In his remarks Mr. Long said:

" The very inspiration that prompted the erection of this building is the result of the slow growth of New England experience and career. It is a fruit of the same civil polity which in the beginning of our State discountenanced primogeniture and entail of property, and gave to wealth and its accumulations that easy mobility which has made it not the monopoly of a few but the servant of the body of the people, finding its best return only in their service, and its greatest luxury in its consecration to their use. Can there be a finer tribute to labor than that thus, by its own inherent law of action operating under our republican institutions, as soon as it comes into its own reward, it ministers to its own nobler deeds, its own hand providing for the education of its head and the refinement of its heart? Behold a mar-vel more wondrous than any Oriental tale. For not in the closet of the student, not in the shade of the cloister, not in the vision of the poet, but straight out of the busiest, most intense, hardest headed material concentration of industrial, manufacturing, money-making, labor-employing forces and enterprise, and out of the free act of the people in town meeting assembled, springs this fair flower of the gentlest humanities, this grace of art, this fountain of letters, this frozen song of

The speaker then told in eloquent words how a former business man of Littleton, when embarrassed in business, was befriended by Reuben Hoar, and in remembrance of that kindness a son of the beneficiary has erected a memorial in gratitude to his father's benefactor. Continuing, he

"Yet not alone to Reuben Hoar is this building dedicated. It is dedicated to education and democracy. Few of us know what a universal blessing a public library is — how people of all conditions depend upon it; of how many a sick-room it is the light; of how many a poor man's home it is the cheer; of how much leisure and ennui it is the relief; and how well informed and well read a community is made by its resources. Walking from our own one day, I overtook a child slow sauntering before me. In her dress was the evidence of that pathetic poverty which seeks to hide its destitution with the mother's midnight

needle and the prudent patch. Her broken and overcrushed shoes, a mile too large, were the evident gratuity of charity. But under each arm was a library book, and in her hand a third, held wide open, which she read as she walked. Passing her, I caught, under the torn hat-brim, that intelligent child-face, traced with a pensive sadness which is so often seen among the children of the poor. Apparently my salutation woke the blue eyes, which trembled up in response to it, from a dream in which all consciousness of the actual time and place had faded, and in which the soul was living in the transcendent ranges of an upper world - the world of an inspiring imagination - the world of literature and mind - the world in which all the good and wise and lovely were her own caste and society. Is it nothing to have conferred such a blessing on one of God's little ones, and to have made such an one the messenger of glad tidings to some humble household, which under the gifts she was bringing would gladden into happiness and instruction? Is there nothing, too, to be said in praise of an agency that thus sweeps our vision out of the small and inbreeding confines of local friction up to the world-wide and time-wide ranges of creative power?

"But this fact of the eager and general use of the public library only the more emphatically suggests that while such a resource is a mighty instrument for delight and for good it may be made also an instrument for evil. It is not merely an honor, it is a most weighty responsibility, that falls on the seven citizens who, as trustees of this institution, have it in their keeping. Seventy-five years ago where should Abraham Lincoln find any book to read? Fifty years ago, as John Bascom tells us, he was starving on the husks of a few dogmatic volumes on his reverend father's shelves. But to-day is the deluge of books, and a public library should be the ark into which we and our children may flee for safety; where only what is worth keeping enters and is preserved. May conscience and wisdom be with those who are to select the fare which is to minister from these shelves! We are nowadays careful what is the quality of the water we supply and of the food we distribute. Let us be careful of the intellectual and moral supply, which so much determines the mental and moral culture of the people; the procedures not into their mouths, but out of them; the issues of life.'

In connection with this new building a very pretty and a rather dramatic incident should be related. Not far from two score years ago a man named Houghton, who kept a country store here, met with financial reverses. His property passed into the hands of an assignce. assignee was Reuben Hoar, a rich farmer for those days, a good, kind-hearted man, who, by befriending the storekeeper, enabled him to get on his feet again and once more stand in the sunlight of prosperity. The aided man had a son, then far from known in Boston business channels as one of the most successful and enterprising merchants that city contains, as he is to-day. The son was W. S. Houghton, the senior partner of the well-known Boston boot and shoe manufacturing firm, Houghton, Coolidge & Co., who has given to the town that which occasions its rejoicing at the present time, and who stipulated when he made his proposition to the town that the contemplated structure should be called the Reuben Hoar Library Building. This was done in honor of the man who had favored and assisted the sire of the donor.

It was about two years ago that Mr. Houghton offered to give the town of Littleton \$10,000 for a library and town hall building, one-half the amount to be spent at once in the furtherance of his project, the balance to be funded and only the income used, the proposition being made upon the condition that the townspeople raise by subscription an equal amount. It was not deemed possible to raise the amount in that manner, and it was agreed that the town might, if it would, appropriate the sum desired instead. To this proposition there was not a little demurring, not but the people wished to avail themselves of the offer made, but it was not considered advisable by the majority to incur the debt that must follow. However, the majority wanted to accept the proposition and the town did so.

The architectural design of the building is decidedly old English. In that portion of the building basement beneath the tower is the Selectmen's room, a small hall, the town's fire-proof safe, and a room that can be used for banquet purposes. That portion beneath the Town Hall is unfinished, and at present contains only the gas machine and furnaces, of which there are two. Passing up the broad steps under the tower a commodious lobby is reached, from which the library is entered on the right, the stage and hall on the left. Two good-sized receptacles for clothing, etc., are also found on the right, while a doorway adjoining that leading to the library opens up direct communication with the town offices below.

The walting-room in the library is furnished with antique furniture; there is also a practica open fireplace, furnished with the brass andirons shovel, tongs, and the "blower" of more primitive days. Upon the wall opposite the librarian's desk is a fine old portrait of the one in honor o whose memory the munificent gift was made, presented to the town by the two daughters of Reuben Hoar, Mrs. Adelbert Mead, of West Acton and Mrs. Isaac Wright, of Harvard.

The height of the library and waiting-room is 11 feet. The former is 20 x 20 feet, and has an alcove 10 x 8 feet; the latter is the same size, with a smaller alcove. The apartments are separated by a fancy railing. They are furnished in white wood stained in imitation of cherry. The walls are tinted in two colors, the ceiling having but one. There is no effort at ornamentation other than what is given by the pleasing, light, and harmonious tints spoken of.

There are two entrances to the town hall, one from the lobby spoken of, the other through the expansive doorways at the further extreme of the structure, which leads into a commodious foyer, at the further end of which is a spacious cloakroom and a good-sized ticket office. Separating the foyer from the hall is a partition extending from floor to ceiling. Between the door leading into the cloak-room and that which leads into the

audience-room is the stairway by which the cosy little balcony is reached.

The auditorium presents a floor area of 50 x 50 feet. It is 20 feet high from the floor to the centre of the arch, which extends from just above the windows on one side to a corresponding point on the opposite side. Four massive arched girders furnish the support for the roof. The wainscot, which is about four feet high, is finished in dark red; above this is a heavy moulding, then comes an eight-inch fresco band in orange and black. Above this the walls are of an olive hue until the archway is reached, which, with the ceiling, is of a dark buff color. The wainscot and walls are finished in oil, the ceiling in water-colors.

The stage is 20 x 12 feet and extends about four feet beyond the proscenium arch, which is bordered by a fresco band not unlike that described. The stage forms a recess that adds much to the general attractiveness of the hall. Three chandeliers and 20 single burners furnish the illuminating facilities. The hall is supplied with the Harwood folding settees, which, like all the woodwork, are imitation cherry in color.

#### LIBRARIES IN THE EAST.

From the London Athenaum.

M. PAUL BESOBRASOF was despatched last winter on a mission to the Hellenic East by the Palestine Society of St. Petersburg, and has lately travelled through Greece. For Russians the history of the Lower Empire has naturally great interest, and several of their scholars have lately been visiting the shores of the Mediterranean, especially as materials for the study of the Byzantine Empire have accumulated rapidly in the last few years. We may give the result of M. Besobrasof's visits to Zante and Crete.

The public library of Zante, founded in 1883, contains fifty-three manuscripts, partly Greek, partly Italian, most of them belonging to the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries. The Greek mss., which came mainly from monasteries and private libraries, are chiefly devoted to theological and liturgical subjects, and are of little interest to a palæographer or an historian. The Italian are far more attractive, such as the Libro d'Oro of the nobility of Zante. Most of them contain material throwing much light on the history of the Ionian Islands under Venetian, French, Russian, and English sway. The town records of Zante also comprise a great deal of importance from this point of view; a register of the fiefs on the island in the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries, decrees of the Venetian Senate, a register of letters of the Doge, and books of "Ordini" from 1487.

The most interesting thing in Zante, however, is the archives of the Roman Catholic bishopric. Of great importance is the parchment describing the possessions of the Roman Church in 1264. It has several times attracted the attention of scholars, but has not been printed in full. The keeper of the library, Panag. Chiotis, author of a remarkable history of the Ionian Islands, promises to publish it in the last volume of his book. Besides the manuscript there are many

documents of value in the archives. In several of the churches are preserved the seals of the Greek patriarchs of Constantinople. They belong to the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries. Some of them are noticed in the "Analecta Philologica Zacynthi" of the late Bishop Katramis.

After M. Besobrasof had inspected the manuscripts of Zante he proceeded to Crete, where he found nothing but three Venetian documents and three seals of patriarchs dated 1680, 1706, and 1797, all belonging to the monastery of Chrysopege, not far from the town of Canea. Otherwise he discovered nothing in the island. The monastic libraries have perished in the numerous insurrections in the island, especially in 1821.

### M. MORGAND AND THE PAILLET LIBRARY.

From the Art Amateur.

THE manner in which the sale of the Paillet library was managed offers an instructive example of the mastery which some French dealers have over everything relating to their business. It also shows that, in the domain of art and curiosity, an immense deal of cleverness may be exercised to profitable ends without laying the dealer open to charges of dishonesty and fraud. M. Eugène Paillet, president of "the thrice illustrious and charming 'Société des Amis des Livres,'" as Octave Uzanne calls it, owned about a thousand volumes of the rarest books that a modern bibliophile delights in. It was the cream of all beautiful and good books, and M. Paillet's friends estimated his collection at half a million of francs, and called him happy. There were manuscripts, incunabula, and books of the sixteenth century; Elzevirs and old Dutch editions : illustrated books of the eighteenth century; first editions of the Romantics, and everything that heart could desire. So, at least, thought the "Amis des Livres." But their president became But their president became seized with a desire to read in the book of nature - in other words, to own a little property in the country. To raise the money he determined to sell his library, but he determined to sell dear much dearer than he had bought. Spite of the reputation which the collection enjoyed that might not have proved an easy matter if he had simply packed it up and sent it to the Hôtel Drouot; for eighteenth-century books formed the bulk of it, and eighteenth-century books were going down in price. He therefore con-sulted with M. Morgand, the great bookseller, and king of the old book trade, who also had quantities of eighteenth-century books which he wished to dispose of at a profit on a falling market. It may seem strange that he should see his way to that end by doubling his stock of the commodity, but he did. He paid, or agreed to pay, M. Paillet a satisfactory price, and then he set to work to make the most of his bargain in a manner that would do credit to Jay Gould, if that great genius was dealing in books instead of in stocks.

The transaction was kept secret. M. Henri Beraldi, a member of M. Paillet's society, and a

very witty writer, was employed to make a catalogue of the collection, and was encouraged to make it, in effect, a book of the most charming essays about books and book-lovers that had seen the light in a long while. He was told nothing of the "deal" between Morgand and Paillet. The catalogue finished, a very small number of copies was printed luxuriously and sold at a round price to amateurs of great means only. Some of these even could not get a copy, and the result was that everybody talked about the catalogue and the books mentioned in it. Even those who believed that they had better copies of the same books envied M. Paillet his copies, because they had been written about by M. Beraldi. Some

this feeling in a variety of ways, and then M. Morgand announced that he had purchased the library.

months were devoted to exciting and heightening

People took it for granted that he would put the volumes on exhibition on the shelves of his shop and begin to sell them at once, so they rushed there to see them and take their pick. But he did nothing of the sort. He kept them locked up, and would show them to nobody. The disappointed book-hunters, not to go away emptyhanded, relieved him of much of his old stock. Then he began to yield to the entreaties of a few of the more importunate and sold them a book or two. Orders began pouring in from all parts of France, from England and the United States. New York dealers were commissioned to offer almost any price for a book that had belonged to M. Paillet. Prices went up, and up, and up, not only for M. Paillet's books, but for nearly all of Morgand's other books as well. In less than two months the Paillet library was dispersed to all quarters of the globe, without having ever been placed on public exhibition. It was sold simply on the reputation that had been made for it. M. Morgand is said to have cleared a hundred per cent. on his venture, and he has turned the tide

#### PLEASE DON'T.

once more in favor of the eighteenth century, for

how long no one can tell.

TO BOOKBINDERS.

PLEASE don't letter the titles in black when the binding is dark.

Please don't use type so mysteriously fashioned that it cannot be read at sight.

Please don't fail to put the title on the back, even if it is chiefly displayed on the side.

Please don't line the covers with that kind of paper that always smuts the book-plate, nor with that which is permanently discolored by a touch of paste.

Please don't, if you can possibly avoid it, make books that will not stand up without strong support on both sides.

Please don't put so much ornament on the back that we cannot read the lettering.

Please do leave us some margin. M. O. N.

#### A FAMOUS LIBRARY.

BY MISS JANE BANCROFT.

From the Christian Advocate, Aug. 4.

THE old town of St. Gall, in Switzerland, lies out of the usual route of travellers. We reached it by way of the Rhine and Lake Constance, although the railroad leads more directly there. Higher for situation than any other city in Europe, it yet lies in a deep valley with hills flanking it on either side. As the valley extends east and west, the sun shines in upon it from morning to evening, and seldom does it look upon a more busy population. Here in the eleventh century linen-weaving was introduced. The inhabitants showed particular skill in the art; in a certain way it has continued as a hereditary gift, for today St. Gall is the centre of the machine embroidery trade, and her workmen are renowned for their skill and ability in design and execution. Buyers come here from all parts of the world, and several American firms are represented by resident

It is hard to think of past times in this thriving, prosperous part of the town, but a step away from the business centre will take you back into the surroundings of the Middle Ages. Leave this busy, airy street, take the first turn to the right, and you enter a narrow, winding way, with houses from six to seven stories high, having queer projecting little balconies, quaint smallpaned windows, and a general air of having outlived their allotted time. Keeping still to the right, you finally emerge into a spacious square, surrounded by a vast pile of buildings. The great church to the right is the Abbey Church of St. Gall. Reaching from it on the right, in front, and on the left, are long lines of buildings, formerly belonging to the abbey, now the property of the canton, and used for governmental purposes.

The Abbey of St. Gall owes its origin to the Irish monk Gallus, who, with eleven companions, followed the pious Columban when he left his native land with the purpose of converting heathen nations. Columban finally found a resting-place in northern Italy. Gallus having remained a sick man near Lake Constance, on his recovery set forth to find a favorable position for founding a house to God. At his death, in 640, he left the germ of a great monastery. From the tenth to the twelfth centuries it reached its greatest prosperity, and became, in truth, a university for all Germany.

At the French Revolution there was a general confiscation of church property, and during the commotion the canton appropriated the old abbey foundations, used many of the buildings for state purposes, and diverted its revenues to different ends. The abbey, with its bishop and ten priests, is now but a shadow of its former greatness.

In the thickest darkness of mediæval years, three great lights of learning and Christian influence shone out on the gross ignorance of those times—the monasteries of Fulda in the north of Europe, of St. Gall in the middle, and of Monte Casino in southern Europe. At St. Gall a great library was collected; princes and popes sent choice manuscripts; monks wrote out the sermons of the priests, and copied the writings of the

fathers; some wrote the chronicles of their time, and gradually there were gathered here treasures of parchments and of books. As we had chanced upon a busy day, Char Donnerstag, preceding Good Friday, the priests were busy celebrating high mass in the great münster and we were told that no guide could be had, and no treasures of the abbey or library shown to strangers until after Good Friday.

This would not do for Americans. Some way must be found. Ten centimes (two cents) procured us the devoted services of a small boy who found a man that brought us a girl. The latter led us to a woman who conducted us through a great hall, past the comfortable rooms of the monks (which were by no means barren cells), up a steep staircase, again through a long corridor, and we were at the heavily carved door of the famous library. We entered, and at once the outside world of chanting priests, praying women, men of business, the rush to and fro in the city, all had vanished, and we were in the quiet and hush of centuries agone. The large rectangular room was filled with books, pictures, and carving. The ceiling was covered with paintings framed in by the Italian stucco-work of the last century. Books, books were everywhere, from the floor to the heavy iron balcony, forming a second story, and from here to the ceiling. The cases were of heavy carved oak, and iron gratings kept the books from careless handling. At least, such was our conclusion, for certainly no librarian could have been more generous in showing his treasures, or more ready to proffer them for use, than was the courteous man of letters, who in his semi-clerical attire left us puzzled as to whether he was a priest with literary tastes, or a lay brother with priestly tendencies. He explained that the books before us in the great hall were not half of the number the library contained; another hall as large was filled, besides the manuscript rooms and other

In answer to a remark that the abbey library had done well to keep so many of its treasures intact for over a thousand years, the librarian replied: "Yes, it is true. Of the manuscripts mentioned in a catalogue of the year 823 about four hundred are still in existence, and we have guarded other treasures. But, like all things, the library has had its changes. The Council of Constance may have been a good thing for the Church" (being good Protestants and reverent admirers of John Huss, we doubted it); "but for the library it was disastrous. The bishops and prelates came together from all parts of the world, and not bringing their books with them, when they wanted instruction on some point, they would send here or to the Abbey of Reichenau for books. At the close of the four years' session they left for their homes, taking the books with them, and the abbey never saw them again. Some are now in the church library at Florence, some at Naples, while at Berlin there is a large collection of these books, bearing the library mark of St. Gall." Evidently the book borrower and keeper is no invention of modern times. "But," said we, "what became of the library when the French marched through here in the early part of the century?" "It fluchted," he answered, Our the century?"

guide had used such excellent English that we were surprised, and thought ourselves deceived. Seeing our slowness, he added, by way of explanation, "It flohed, you know," and went on to state that the entire library had been removed to Bregenz, from there to another town, and as the French marched away brought back to St. Gall.

One by one the stately old man brought forth his treasures, handling the old books lovingly and reverently. The catalogue of 823 is a small vellum volume, carefully and daintily written, plain to read, and unique in that, with the exception of the Vatican catalogue, it is the oldest of its kind. Here, too, is the oldest copy in the world of the Gregorian chant, with the musical signs of expression indicated just as they are today. It was taken to England a few years ago to be shown at the Exposition, and English scholars assigned it to the eighth century. It is enclosed in a carved ivory cover of much earlier date: Roman carving dating probably from the time of Adrian. This is exquisitely wrought, depicting, some say, the myth of Juno; others, the struggle of the two principles of good and evil,

In each compartment was a different group, but the figures were ever the same, a man and woman in combat. Some one suggested that the good principle was represented by the woman, and her struggling adversary was the evil spirit. "It may be so," said the courtly old gentleman, politely, but doubtfully; "we have always interpreted it just the other way." No more was to be said, so we turned to the consideration of the most costly possession the library owns. It will be remembered that when the Emperor Charlemagne was an old man he learned to read and write. The monk Alcuin, from Britain, was his teacher, and the fingers that had grasped the sceptre of mighty and widespread dominion, now in careful and painstaking way followed the copy of hooks and crooks until letters became familiar to him. The tablets on which the great emperor was wont to write he presented to the Abbot of St. Gall. These were so highly prized that the artist monk, Tutilio, carved elaborate ivory plates for the outside, which were set in metal frames thickly incrusted with costly stones. And, as Charlemagne had commanded the priests to preach at least one sermon every Sunday, it was thought appropriate to have the Irish monk, Sintram, noted for his script, write out the Sunday gospels of the year in a form to make a book suited to the covers. The writing is as clear as type, the illuminated letters bright and fresh, and the gold leaf untarnished.

Students of guide-books! fellow-travellers, who go about Europe carrying red covered Baedekers! before us is a guide-book to be envied—a roll of parchment about six inches long and two inches in diameter. This is the Memorabilia Roma, the guide-book to Rome, which the priests of St. Gall carried with them when they went on pilgrimages to the Holy City, and dates from the thirteenth century. Next we are shown a book with strips of brown paper pasted in it, covered with characters not all legible. This is a papyrus, containing a sermon of Isodorus of Seville, of the fourth century.

Then comes a veritable palimpsest. These

palimpsests are somewhat rare, and found mostly in church libraries in Europe. When parchment was difficult to procure, the monks took the old parchments of Greek or Latin authors, by a chemical process effaced the words of antiquity and wrote in their stead what they esteemed more valuable, but in most cases the substitution was a serious loss to the world.

Last of all, we were taken to the chamber of manuscripts. I had asked this as a special favor. If any one makes a study of the life and times of Charlemagne, he is sure to meet references to a fragment of history relating to the emperor, written by Eginhard, the monk of St. Gall. It is only a fragment, but in the history of literature is of great value. It had long been a cherished wish to see what Eginhard had written. Now that we were on the spot the wish could not be repressed.

Our leader unlocked a heavy carved door, led us up-stairs, again unlocked a double iron door, and we were in a comparatively small room lined with closed cases. These contained the manuscripts. He selected the one desired, laid it open on the table, and found the seven pages at the close of a great book mostly devoted to other matters. Only seven closely-written great pages, but these were enough to give the monk Eginhard all the fame he possesses; the preceding six hundred and fourteen pages are never mentioned. Surely, no man can foresee the future of his own work. The doors of the cases were opened, and the great vellum volumes looked invitingly out at us; but we had no lifetime to devote to their research, not even a year or a month, and to speak of less would be mockery.

## THE LARGEST LIBRARY IN THE WORLD.

From the Standard, London.

By far the largest library in the world is the Bibliothèque Nationale at Paris. It is so large that nobody knows how many books it contains. They have never yet been all catalogued or counted, and when the classification of a great library falls behind it takes some time to get it in order, especially when no attempt is made to bring up the arrears. Current works and new acquisitions are now catalogued in this library as received. but many old collections - amongst others, the official documents relating to the Revolution still lie unassorted. Mere bulk, then, goes for little, unless it is accompanied with utility. As to this, and as to the accommodation it provides for readers, the French National Library is a long way behind the reading-room of the British Museum, and vexatious restrictions and needless formalities meet the reader at every turn. But before referring to its organization we shall pass a coup d'ail over the history of this remarkable collection, which, though sold by impecunious kings and otherwise dispersed more than once, has never been so widely scattered that it could not wholly or partially be brought together again.

The earliest nucleus of a national library in France was made by the Emperor Charlemagne, and some of his manuscripts are still preserved in

the present collection. At the death of the Emperor, the books were sold and the proceeds given to the poor. His successor, however, Louis le Debonnaire, had a taste for literature, and gathered a few volumes together. He was followed by St. Louis, who bought up as many of the works of the early Christian writers as he could get. At his death the library was dispersed again. This time it fell to the monasteries. From the time of Saint Louis to the days of John the Good (1350), the library had little merit; but after the battle of Poitiers it had grown sufficiently to be thought worth plundering, and accordingly the English carried most of it away with them. One Bible then taken is now in the British Museum. There was a library in the reigns of Philip the Hardy and Philip the Bel, but the real founder of the Royal Library of France was Charles the Wise. He had a collection of about 1000 books, which at that time was considerable. He indiscreetly, however, lent some of his books out to read, and as, at this early period, the habit of never returning books borrowed had been contracted, thus lost several volumes. Soon after this the whole collection was sold to the Duke of Bedford, and brought to England, but was dispersed at his death in 1435, and some of the works found their way back to France. Charles VII. was too much occupied with politics to look after a library, but Louis IX. and Charles VIII. were both collectors. So was Louis XI., many of whose books still exist. Francis I. had a library at Fontainebleau, with Budé as his librarian, and from the time of Henri II. to Charles IX. the library remained there, and went on increasing. In the reign of the latter monarch it was removed to Paris, and in the course of the transference several valuable works were stolen.

Between the reign of Henri IV, and the time of Catherine de Medicis - who augmented the collection largely - the library was changed from place to place in Paris, and at every change suffered more or less from pillage. A catalogue made out in 1622 showed that there were then 6000 volumes, of which very few were printed books. Large private collections were be-queathed to the library about this time, and under the indefatigable activity of Colberts it went on prospering. In 1666 it was installed in the Rue Vivienne, and after the death of Mazarin whose great collection went to form a library by themselves - was placed in his palace in the Rue de Richelieu, where it has since remained. In 1688 the library had already swelled to 43,000 printed books and 10,000 manuscripts. Louvois, who succeeded Colbert in its management, resolved to open it to the "learned of all nations" for study. The time given to the learned to pursue their researches was limited, only two hours a week, so that we find that Voltaire and others borrowed books from the librarian. The library was well arranged and getting into good working order at the time of the Revolution, which we are told opened up a new era of prosperity for it. All the great chateaux were then plundered, monasteries ransacked, religious institutions pillaged, and everthing seized was confiscated and declared national property. Some of the

princes of the blood and the emigre's had magnificent collections of books, and these were among the spoils. For months books came pouring into Paris from all directions. Among the collections were those of Talleyrand, Rochochouart, Philippe d'Orleans, Renard, Montaigne, Choiseul, Egmont, and Montmorency. Some of the books were sent to the Sorbonne, but the majority fell to the National Library. The librarians were quite overwhelmed with the hauls that were carted pell-mell into the building, and the sudden acquisition upset the whole organization of the library. The Terror decreed that a copy of every book published in France should be sent for preservation in the National Library, and, not content with appropriating all the great collections they could lay their hands on, sent out commissioners to Greece, Italy, Germany, and other countries to buy more. In 1807 it was roughly estimated that the library contained about half a million of books. Then came Napoleon, who was also good to the library. Wherever his victorious host went a flock of human vultures followed, carrying off the booty, and thus more hauls of books were brought to the French capital. But not all to remain there, for, after Waterloo, Germany, Belgium, Bavaria, Austria, and other countries stepped in and claimed their prints and manuscripts.

Since the days of Napoleon the library has gone on augmenting. Now and then an extraordinary grant has been given to purchase books, and every printer is bound to send two copies of every book he prints to the library. This is a very unsatisfactory arrangement, as printer sometimes means printer, engraver, and binder, so that frequently the books reach the library by instalments; and then only by the roundabout way of a general depot. The number sent to the depot fluctuates greatly. From 1860 to 1874 the number of books Paris produced was nearly double that which came from the provinces, but since that time the provinces are a long way ahead, whether this be a criterion to literary activity or not. In 1881 books from Paris numbered 9702. from the departments, 23.094; and in 1884 books from Paris were 8156, those from the departments, 50,606. This does not include periodical publications. Other means which the library has of increasing its stock is by exchanging duplicate copies with foreign libraries, by receiving from learned societies, by donations, and by purchases. In 1884 5609 books were bought, and 4049 received as donations. The total number of books in the library is about two and a half millions. Only part of the books are catalogued, and all the catalogues are not accessible to the readers. The catalogue of historical works is complete, and includes 363,125 books on French history alone. There are sets of imperfect catalogues which the librarians use and try to ferret out works asked for, but not always with success. Since 1871 a catalogue of the new acquisitions has been issued as a monthly periodical — not a convenient meth-od — and a subject list of recent works exists. The reading-room - salle de travail - is much less than the reading-room of the British Museum, and cannot be compared to it in point of arrangement, convenience, or with regard to the service.

Readers have to go through useless formalities, but more or less red tape must be expected at every French institution. No writing material beyond ink is supplied, and should any one attempt to pass out of the room with a twopenny notebook in his hand, though it is his own property, the functionary at the entrance will come down upon him like a detective on a malefactor. As a guarantee that he is not walking off with national property, he must be furnished with a laisses passer. In 1884, 71,932 readers went to this room, and 213,744 books were referred to. There is another room for consulting manuscripts, a department for engravings and maps, and a public room which is open to everybody without tickets, and furnished with about 50,000 books of general literature. The library is open from ten to four o'clock on week-days, and the public part on Sundays as well. From a fear that the buildings would be set on fire, no light has ever been introduced into it. The sum allowed for expenses is not a third of [that which is] given to the British Museum library.

#### THE VALUE OF OLD BOOKS.\*

As a librarian, I have often been consulted by persons owning some old book or books as to their value. In most cases, in fact in all that I can remember, the result has been a serious disappointment to the owners, who had been led by current misconceptions on the subject to suppose they had a treasure. These misconceptions as to the money value of old books are so common that it seems worth while to attempt to remove them by giving the public some correct notions on the subject; and the Christian Union is suggested as a fit medium for the purpose by the fact that it contained, a few months since, a letter from a correspondent admirably illustrative of the misconception to which I have referred. This article spoke in glowing terms of a rare old hook owned by a lady in New York State, and went so far as to intimate that good judges had placed its value as high as \$3000. I was subsequently applied to by a friend of the owner of this book, who desired me to see how it could be disposed of so as to yield to the owner, who was in distressed circumstances, money for her support. An examination of catalogues at once revealed the fact that, although the book was a fine large folio, printed two hundred and fifty years ago, and in good condition, it could not be sold at all without difficulty in finding a purchaser, and was not likely to bring more than \$3 instead of the \$3000 which had been named. It seemed nothing less than cruel to dispel this illusion, but, after all, the cruelty was on the part of those who, claiming to know something of the subject, placed such an absurdly high estimate on the book.

A nother good instance of this popular misconception occurs to me as I write. I was in the office of one of our oldest newspapers one evening, when the editors made me a sharer in their amusement over a letter they had just received. The letter related that a young girl in the family of the writer had found inside an old partition a

<sup>\*</sup> From an article by W. I. Fletcher, Librarian of Amherst College, in Christian Union.

copy of the first number (over a hundred years old) of the newspaper in question. It was enclosed with the letter, and the hope expressed that the editors would do the generous thing and make the girl a present as a partial compensation for the treasure-trove. A cabinet organ was hinted at as a modest suggestion of this partial equivalent! The joke of it all was that the paper sent was a copy of the fac-simile printed on the one hundredth anniversary of the newspaper, and scattered broadcast through the State. But had it been a copy of the somewhat rare original issue, one dollar would probably have been a high market-price for it.

To strike at the root of this popular error, one may say distinctly that age is no criterion of value in books. The mere date of printing is no evidence of such rarity as gives fancy prices. To be sure, any book bearing a date earlier than 1470, if in fair condition, is worth something merely for its approach to the date of the invention of printing. But it may safely be said that no book printed after Columbus sighted this Western world is of special value merely from its age. Every frequenter of book auctions has seen dozens of books printed between 1489 and 1550, and in very fair binding and condition, sell for prices ranging from one dollar to ten, and knows that it must be a book of remarkable interest from some other cause than its date to sell for more. On the other hand, books are sold every month for prices running up into the hundreds and occasionally into the thousands. this? It is simply from the fact that there are very many books, printed at dates ranging all the way from 1455 to 1886, which are rare and desired by certain classes of buyers. These are the elect among books, resulting from the careful sifting of the centuries. Before the war, there was an occasional find of one of these books among the heir-looms in the garrets of our New England houses. But our good friends are about as likely to plough up diamonds in their gardens as to unearth any of these treasures since the fabulous prices paid for paper stock during and soon after the war have made so much old literature the prey of the paper-mill, and the collectors have been so assiduously going to and fro through the land seeking what they might devour.

Nor would it avail anything to attempt to give any rules for knowing the comparative value of old books. The value of a "nugget," as Henry Stevens called his treasures, may depend on any one of so many points in authorship, imprint, edition, and condition, that it is only by years of training that one can become qualified to judge, and even those best qualified place much dependence, to the last, on catalogues and on information derived from other experts, each of whom is generally especially versed in one field only.

So the best that can be done is to give the general rule that old books are worth nothing for their age, and those one finds among the heir-looms of the past are much more likely than otherwise to have no other element of value. Especially valueless are those lacking some part, or badly stained, or dog-eared, or worn. And nearly all the old books submitted to me as an expert by hopeful owners have been defective in

one or more of these respects, and have been the higher prized for these marks of antiquity.

But one caution should be added. Thus far only money value has been considered. Every book and printed leaf has another value, and a higher, which should save it from wanton destruction. The true lover of books cares little for the grosser estimate of the bookseller, and much for the soul of books. There is a treasure of interest, partly intrinsic and partly arising from associations, about every old book, especially if it has come to our hands from former generations of our ancestors. I have one old religious treatise, in wretched condition, bearing the autographs of my paternal ancestors for four generations back. They had very few books, and passed them along reverently from father to son. I couldn't sell this old rag of a book for ten cents, nor would I part with it for any price I can name. Value the old books, then, for what they are, for the past of which they bear mute testimony, for the associations that cluster about them, and rejoice, if you have some such treasures, that there is no money locked up in them that might tempt you some day to part with them for filthy lucre.

#### THE ART OF BOOKBUYING.

#### David Gamut in the N. Y. Times, July 12.

They do these things better in Paris. Querard, Brunet, Barbier, Peignot, Lacroix, Nodier, Paris, Renouard. Didot, Uzanne, Beraldi, are bibliographers who have taught booksellers to be bibliopoles. Charles of Orleans, Gui Patin, Bossuet, Mazarin, Colbert, La Valliere, Double, Baron Pichon, are names of French collectors who had the erudition and correct taste needful to bibliographers. In Paris there are bibliopoles and bibliophiles; in New York booksellers and bookcollectors. Your bookseller is your enemy on the principle that business is the money of others. He makes your education with Morgand's catalogue for a catechism; believes he is a missionary; says of a great bookbuyer, "my pupil."

Conquet is a bookseller at whose store one may meet every afternoon, between four and five, Ludovic Halevy, Paul Bourget, André Theuriet, Giacomelli, Henriot, Robida, artists, men of letters, wealthy bibliophiles. They go there instead of going to Tortoni's at the absinthe hour. And that is why Conquet knows books so well; that is, books that are illustrated, books of the nineteenth century, because that is the fancy of the Conquet coterie.

To Rouquette's Poulet-Malassis came every day for the good of his work on book plates, and Henry Cohen for the good of his famous manual. They met there James de Rothschild, Quentin Bauchart, Brivois, Parran, another coterie of artists, men of letters, and bibliophiles.

It was Morgand who taught Fontaine, when he was a clerk of the latter, to make a high-priced catalogue; Fatout, a clerk of Caen, was a great bookfinder on the quays. Morgand and Fatout went into partnership. Conquet, Rouquette, Fontaine, Morgand (Fatout is dead), are the bibliopoles of Paris. There are booksellers there without number. The Hotel Drouot, the

about it.

caravansary where everything that is sold in Paris at auction, from houses to chickens, is sold, has a "Commissaire Priseur," an officer of the Government, who has a rostrum and an ivory mallet with an ebony handle to knock down stock like the President of the Stock Exchange. The Hotel Drouot has an "expert" who appraises the stock, and a crier who shouts the bids. An important book sale at the Hotel Drouot is like a first performance at the Français. The "Commissaire Priseur" has donned his best clothes. Seats at the round table, where the books circulate one by one for examination, have been reserved. There is in the room the solemnity of a funeral ceremony at the Madeleine. The book-buyer does not scratch his nose or look unutterable things at the crier, as he would do here for a bid. He tells his price frankly, Rouquette with a Gascon accent; Morgand, his intimate enemy at book sales, with a voice that comes from his boots. When Rouquette meets Morgand then comes the tug of war. They do not trouble themselves with bidding at the beginning, but bid last, and when they have ceased the war ends for lack of fighters. They are wont to taunt each other with the affirmation that "there is a grease spot on page 133, seventh line.

In Paris they will not sell you a book for 500f. and let it go afterward at your own auction sale for \$100. If they have sold you a "peachblow vase" sort of a book their dignity as well as their interest will make them redeem it at the price they have made you pay, or not much less. It is the ambition of every bookseller not to become wealthy in ten or twenty years, but to become a bibliopole; perhaps because in that realm of equality everybody's desire is to be of the privileged few, perhaps because honors are prized more than riches there. It is silly to run mad after a bit of red ribbon for the lapel of one's coat, but it is not for the bibliopole who runs mad after bookbinding to say so. Moreover, the man that would rather have a red ribbon than a fortune, if a bookseller, is the man for a bibliophile. Valuable books are not to be sold like boots; there must be some show of feeling

In New York they tell tales of a bookseller who buys books at auction here in the spring, takes them with him to Paris in a trunk in the summer, ships them back to his store in the fall in cases that are opened in the presence of flabbergasted book men. He shows a Paris invoice for them. Sometimes it is the library of a Marquis, sometimes the collection of a cousin to a descendant of a governess of a Queen's children. This trick is said to pay well; doubtless it does, judging by librettos that fetch from \$15 to \$30 for having been in the Tuileries Library ("as witness the binding with its large, gilded initial N."), but these things are manufactured by wholesale in the Boulevard Saint-Michel.

Perhaps it would be more moral for a bookseller not to scratch the lettered title of a print that it may pass for a proof, or not to stamp the arms of Mme. de Pompadour on a book that never was in her library, or not to shout, "Is it complete?" at an auction sale when a book is offered, for the purpose of deprecating its value,

whether he sold it originally or not, but especially if he sold it. At a recent auction sale an ancient bookseller was caught scratching with his nail a morocco binding by Petit and a binding with the arms of Louis Philippe; another passing a wet finger on an etching by Meissonier. At a sale of incunabula a bookseller gave a bid of \$3 on a German Psalter that he sold to the collector for \$75. It may be business, but it is not right. There never was an auction sale in New York where the prices were too low. A valuable book finds its level, like water; it fetches the price that it is worth, sometimes more, rarely less; but the value of a book is not the price that can be got for it at private sale. If you should ask the trained collector why booksellers say that the prices at a certain auction sale were too low, he would refer you to the booksellers' catalogues, wherein the same books are dearer. If you should ask how the fiction has been kept up for a decade, he would turn to his scrap-book, filled with clippings from the "trade" papers that say it is too late for an auction sale in June, too early in September, too much in the season in December, that the catalogue is not explicit enough, that the catalogue is too explicit, that the sale was not advertised, that it was over-advertised. The truth is, that the dealers in books for bibliophiles, after they have educated their customers. and these have had their "experience" sale, lose them. The trained collector, even if he has the purse of Fortunatus, does not regard his passion for books as a passion to be gratified by force of money. If he did, Mr. Cornelius Vanderbilt, who is passionately fond of books, would have the best library in America; James de Rothschild, who knew books as well as his friends Rouquette. Morgand, and Fontaine, would have left at his death the best library in France behind him. The man who pays more for a book than it is worth is not a bibliophile.

Some New Yorkers may remember an old man who looked as if he might have come out of the cobwebs of antiquity, who carried books in his arms and the deep pockets of his long coat, in every office building where there is a notice to peddlers that they shall not be admitted. He did not know how to read, but he knew every rare and valuable book that he peddled, its literary as well as its bibliographical value; if you questioned him, you found that he was not saying his lessons. He sold books at their value. Frenzeny's title-page of the "Bookmart" is his portant

Whenever a book is knocked down to G. B. at an auction sale the price of it is 10 cents. G. B. is a Canadian, an amiable gentleman, who has for 10 years attended every auction sale in this city and bought the greater number of French books sold here that have been sold for 10 cents. His name is Georges Benoit. He has books that fill every room of his large house in East Twenty-first Street, and he has read them. They shall never be worth more than 10 cents, but there are many books worth only 10 cents better than their elders in the domain of bibliography.

To learn the art of bookbuying ought not to cost so much as it does. When there were few public libraries it was well to have a large collection of books. Now the bibliophile's bookcase is a jewel box, not a collection of memorial tablets. The collector who shall have a hundred books worthy of the twentieth century bibliophile's library will have an ideal library. He should not send his orders to booksellers to form it, but learn his alphabet of a collector in the catalogues of book auction sales and wait for the sales that are to come. Mr. C. Jolly Bavoillot has a complete collection of the first editions uncut, with the original paper covers, of the roman-tic school of literature in France. He has it in a corner of his little library-room in Stuyvesant Square. There is not a collection of "Romantiques" to compare with it in France. He has every first edition of Victor Hugo, with an autograph in each book relating to the book or written at the time of its publication. The collection was not made by force of money, but by force of patience, an indispensable quality for a bookcollector. He waited to years for a copy of the Conservateur Littéraire, a newspaper edited by Hugo when Hugo was a boy, an ardent Royalist, and a pious Catholic. It appeared often in these years in special catalogues of booksellers, it was well known that he wanted it, its price was fabulous, but he knew that it was in the collection of a man aged 80, and when the man died he bought it at his sale at its value. Wherefore it should be a dogma with bibliophiles that there are no scarce books. There are booksellers who wantonly or by ignorance charge too much for their wares, bibliographers who copy each other without investigation, book-collectors who have been educated by booksellers and have not yet had their "experience" sale. It may seem paradoxical to say that great private collections are not only for the wealthy, but it is true, and the experience of every one who will not bury his talent in a napkin.

#### Librarn Economn and historn.

Brown, G: Washington, archit. Edinburgh P. L.: Elevation, plans of 3d and 4th floors, interior of reference lib. (In the Builder, July 16.)

The 3d floor, lending lib., is shelved to contain 53,450 v. at 10 v. to the superficial ft.; the 4th floor 107,904 v. at 8 v. to the sup. ft. The ref. lib. is a hall 95 x 76 ft. with a lofty dome and 126 seats. A ladies' reading-room has 36 seats. The catalog tables of the lending library are put in a place where they are lighted by a window about 125 ft. off. Part of each table, however, may get some light from a window only 60 ft. off.

Completeness, Robert Eitner publishes in the Monatshefte f. Musikgeschichte, 1887, no. 1, a "Wunsch an die öff. Bibliotheksvorstände," namely that each public library should aim to have the works of some one author complete in all the editions. Dr. O. Hartwig pronounces this impracticable.

DZIATZKO, K:, ed. Sammlung Bibliothekswissen-

Psalterium; bibliographischer Versuch über die liturgischen Bücher des christlichen Abendlandes. Circa 4 Bogen, Broschirt, Preis 2 mark. Berlin, A. Asher & Co., 1887.

"Sie soll umfangreichere, jedoch meist in einem hefte abgeschlossene einzelarbeiten aus dem gesammten gebiete des bibliothekswesens bringen, mithin ebenso das buchwesen im allgemeinen, wie das geschick einzelner besonders wichtiger bücher oder ganzer kategorien von solchen, nicht minder das ordnen und verwalten der büchersammlungen als die schicksale einzelner hervorragender bibliotheken oder das leben solcher personen, deren thätigdeit mit bibliotheken oder buchwesen eng verknüpft war."

MÜNTZ, Eugene, and FABRE, Paul. La bibliothèque du Vatican au 15e siècle d'apres des documents inédits. Paris, Thorin, 1887. 2 l. + 8 + 380 p. O. (Bib. des Ecoles f. d'Athènes et de Rome, fasc, 48.)

ROSEBORO', Viola. New York free public libraries. (In Cosmopolitan, May.)

VAN DYKE, J. C. Using a public library. (In the Rutgers targum, June, 1887; p. 127-130.)

#### REPORTS.

Battle Creek (Mich.) P. Sch. L. Added 865 total 8200; issued 42,000. Extensive use he been made of the library in the schools, esp cially in geography, history, science, literature and English work. To attend to it all there is a librarian, Mr. F: P. Jordan, and no assistant,

Boston Medical L. Assoc. (10th and 11th rpts.) Added (two years) 2326; total 17,124 v., 14,832 pm. "The whole library has now been collated. classified, and catalogued by Mrs. Collins."

Bridgeport (Ct.) Free Lib. Total 17,042; added 1441; issued for reference in library, 18,970; circulation 86,767; fiction 55,343; juveniles 17,-500; travels 2404; arts and sciences 2339; periodicals 2048. Expenses \$7,705.54; income \$1.04 more than expenses. All of the income but about \$275 came from the city.

Bridgeport (Conn.) P. L. (6th rpt.) Added 1441; total 17,042; ref. use 18,970; home use 86,-767. Increased educational use is made of the Many teachers have shown great library. earnestness in devising means to induce their pupils to read systematically. Debates on subjects taken from United States history have excited great interest and the young debaters have prepared for them thoroughly at the library.

Des Moines (Iowa) State Lib. Added in past year 2856; by purchase 1269; by donation and exchange 1587. Whole number 31,016, newspapers of the state donated by their editors and publishers are accumulating beyond the accommodations for them in the library.

Hartford L. Assoc. Added 1239; total 35,000; issued 27,062.

"There has been for ten years a steady increase schaftlicher Arbeiten. 1. Heft. W: Brambach: in reading on special subjects, due perhaps to the

impulse to study given by the Centennial Exposition. In the winter of 1875-6, three clubs were using the library. In the winter of 1886-7, there were twenty-four reading on different periods of English, French, German, and American history; following Professor Winchester's lectures on the English poets of 1880-1830; studying etching; reading Shakspeare, Goethe, Molière, and other authors; and discussing various social and political subjects, such as, Peasant Life in Europe, for example. The North School has made use of the library for three years; taking ten or twelve books at a time, for the classes in United States History and Geography. The habit of careful, intelligent reading shows itself to a marked degree in the ease with which the pupils express themselves in writing, their choice of words, and their interest in everything relating to the subjects that they study. When a boy comes for a book, on his own account (not the school's), that will give him the English side of the American Revolution, his mind has been awakened to something beyond the usual blind acceptance of school text-books.

"The increase of special work makes special catalogues necessary. With the kindly offered help of Miss Eliza S. Talcott, a graduate of the School of Library Economy at Columbia College, card-catalogues are now in preparation, of novels, short stories, and historical novels with notes; and a special list of books for boys and girls, divided into classes."

"It was found, upon the death of Mr. G: D. Sargeant, that he had left this Association \$5000, and made it one of the six residuary legatees, beside providing that such books from his library as were not desired by the trustees of the Watkinson Library should go to us. We have received, under this last provision, over 300 volumes, many of them valuable and handsomely bound, including such books as the works of Rousseau, Schiller, Bacon, Mommsen, and Hawthorne, and over 100 volumes of serviceable periodicals. As one of the residuary legatees, it is not improbable that we shall receive as much as by specific bequests.

"This is a gift to be deeply thankful for on every account. It sprang from a keen knowledge of, and delight in literature by the donor, and a generous determination that that knowledge and delight should be shared in large measure by his fellow townsfolk. To us this accession of funds will be a most significant and important matter. With it, the association becomes so far endowed as to place its permanence and stability beyond question. Such relief from anxiety and of liability for deficiency subscriptions has never before been accorded us. After nearly half a century of earnest labor for the preservation and efficiency of our library, and of constant struggle to make ends meet, we have at last the bright prospect of an income from endowment sufficient to prevent the dissipation or decay of the valuable educational institution we have built up. Our preservation is assured. It now devolves upon us to extend our usefulness. For this we occupy a high vantage-ground. Hereafter, in presenting our cause to those who may have a mind to help us in educating our people, we are in position to say: What you give will not be lost or wasted; it is not asked to make up deficiencies, nor needed for mere routine expenses or doubtful experimentation; it is not wanted by an institution so poor and feeble as to render its future doubtful or uncertain: it can, and will, be used—every dollar of it—for the extension to the public of the privileges afforded by an established educational institution with sufficient property to make its work permanent, and animated with an earnest purpose that the work shall be beneficent.

"The subject of a free public library has been much discussed; and it should certainly be the aim of this association to further in every way the establishment of such an institution, or, at least, one substantially free. It is a fair question, whether a library wholly free is as fully appreciated as one which costs something; and whether a numerous, troublesome, and expensive body of mere idle "book-tipplers" may not be largely excluded by a slight change which would be no bar to a reader with a purpose, with a resultant valuable gain in economy of means and service. But we think it admits of no question, that a library supported by an endowment is far preferable to one supported by an annual municipal appropriation which affords no assurance of permanency, may fluctuate widely in amount, and become a troublesome political question. A library supported from the public treasury cannot well be independent of vulgar taste and prejudice. and finds it difficult to lead in the culture of the people; while a library fully endowed can so shape its policy and so supply itself with books and talent as to mould and elevate the reading and thought of the community to high issues.

"In aid of such a project, our library has over \$40,000 worth of property, including both books and funds. How large an endowment must be added? After a full and careful study of the question, we answer, that to rightly meet the educational wants of this city we need at least \$100,000. Can we not secure it?"

Holyoke (Mass.) P. L. Circulation for year 44,655; number of persons holding cards 2075; no. of vols. 11,091; population 31,000.

Newton (Mass.) Free L. Added 1895; total 25,084; issued 90,213, an increase of 6275; periodicals taken 114. The superintendent speaks of the increasing use of the library for reference, the large provision made for the schools, the messenger service, which "gathers and distributes throughout the city the books selected from the library or returned to its shelves."

Norwich (Eng.) Free L. Lending department: added 1810 v.; total 11,206; issued 81,365 v. to a population of 87,842.

Omaha P. L. (10th rpt.) Added 2613; total 16,-850; issued 90,341 (an increase of 10,251; fiction and juv. 79 %). The smallness of the library quarters is complained of and a fire-proof building is asked for on Jefferson Square, a small park. "The much longed for card-catalogue is rapidly progressing, under the supervision of Mr. Charles Evans."

Plainfield, N. J. Added, 4484; total 6450; issued 9464.

St. Paul P. L. (5th rpt.) Added 2078; total 12,995; lib. use 5898; home use 55,649 (fict. and juv. 42,107). The library is becoming crowded.

San Francisco Free Pub. Lib. Added 612 v. and 627 pamphlets; whole number of books 60,706, and 5000 pamphlets; receipts \$27,995.60; expenditures \$17,533.12; 28,313 borrowers cards in use. Visitors for the year 208,149; 223,900 male and 74,249 female; daily average 833. Cards in use 28,313.

#### NOTES.

Adrian (Mich.) P. L. At a special meeting of the city council, held July 21, the lower floor of the city hall was leased to the trustees of the public schools for the location of a public library; but as a majority of all the aldermen did not favor the project the action was illegal. The people wish the library located in the city hall, and the opposing aldermen may find it to their personal interest to change their votes.

Allegheny (Pa.), Carnegie Free Lib. The commissioners opened the bids for the erection of the building on July 14, but as all were in excess of the amount, \$225,000, set apart to be expended for the building alone, none of them were accepted. The commissioners propose to reserve \$35,000 for furniture and other additional expenses which may arise.

Augusta (Ga.) Young Men's Lib. The directors decided at their July meeting to have "a revival of interest right in the middle of the summer season." Each pledged his best efforts to secure at least three subscribers in two days.

Baltimore (Md.) Mercantile Library. The Sun of July 19 is jubilant over having secured in six weeks 500 new subscribers to the library membership. The five hundredth name was that of Prof. B. L. Gildersleve, of the Johns Hopkins University. This additional membership, with others that will follow, ought to reëstablish the Mercantile on a sound basis. The Sun is to be congratulated on the success of its good work.

Bloomington (Ill.) Lib. Assoc. The idea of a Library Association was first suggested by Mrs. Geo. W. Parke, thirty-one years ago. It was incorporated in 1851. Ten years later the name was changed, and new letters of incorporation were secured. The library numbers about 10,000 volumes, admirably selected, and covering a wide range of literature. Mrs. A. R. Galliner has been the librarian for more than fifteen years, and has a thorough practical knowledge of the contents of the library. The work of soliciting funds for a new building was begun in July, 1883, by Miss Sarah J. Raymond, who headed the list with \$500, and she was assisted by Miss Georgiana Trotter.

Mrs. Allen O. Withers donated the land upon which the new Withers Library Building is being erected, and it is understood that she will donate to the Library Association additional lots adjoining, for a public park, to be managed and controlled by them. At the date of laying the

corner-stone of the Withers building, May 19, over \$9000 had been raised, and a large portion paid into the treasury.

The new building is to be 60 x 75 feet. Entering by a flight of stone steps at the S. E. corner the visitor will be ushered into a small reception-room, connected with the library proper by a large door. Passing through this door the librarian's room will be found at the right hand and immediately in front of the library-room proper, which is 30 x 56 feet. On the left is the directors' room, 16 x 18, but as it is in the round tower considerable additional space will be secured. The librarian's office will be 14 x 16, and in the rear of the library will be a work-room. The reading-room, 23 x 48, will be on the east side, abundantly provided with windows and fitted with tables and chairs. This story will be 14 ft. in the clear.

The second floor is to be devoted to the uses of the Business Men's Club. A five-foot carved and panelled staircase, with several landings, will lead to a reception hall 17 x 36 with an 8-foot fireplace. A twenty-foot arch will connect this hall with the main hall, 30 x 38, also provided with an elegant fireplace. In front there will be two fine card-rooms, each 16 x 18, and over the main entrance a ladies' parlor, 15 x 14. These rooms may all be thrown into one by means of slidingdoors. In the rear of the main hall will be the billiard-hall, 19 x 38, with cloak and toilet rooms. On the east side will be two roomy balconies. The main hall will be finished in panelled wainscoting of carved oak. This floor will be 18 ft. in the clear in the main hall, and 12 in the connecting rooms. There will be a gallery over the three front rooms. The two mantels on this story will cost \$500 each. The exterior will be imposing and beautiful. From the ground to the top of the towers it will rise 58 feet. There are to be two towers, one square over the entrance, and one round on the S. W. corner. The main building will be 48 feet high, 34 ft. of brick work. The material is Tiffin, Ohio, brick, of fine color and texture, trimmed with St. Louis pressed brick and Indiana and Ohio stone. Plate glass, with stained glass trimmings, will be used for the windows, and several memorial spaces have already been spoken for.

Boston P. L. The city architect believes that the new Public Library building will cost nearly \$800,000. The Transcript says that whatever the expense, a building like that should not be constructed on a limited or parsimonious scale. It should fitly represent the munificence and public spirit of Boston where educational interests are involved. There is a considerable competition in the city council to obtain the \$360,000 left of the Public Library appropriation. Attempts have been made to divert it for other purposes.

Braddock (Pa.). The Carnegie Library is rapidly nearing completion. It is said that some expensive alterations will have to be made, as the walls are not strong enough to support the heavy tile roof. The building is a beautiful one, of Romanesque style, and will cost \$80,000. The library-room is 86 x 30, with a capacity for 5000 vols. The lecture hall in the rear and to the left of the library will seat 800 people. It is finished

in hard wood, and when completed will be given to Braddock by Mr. Carnegie.

Burlington (Iowa) P. L. The trustees at their July meeting decided to issue a supplement to the existing catalog, to contain all the new books added up to July 1, 1887. Over 34,000 books were circulated during the past year.

Cleveland (O.), The Case Library, The Cleveland Library Association was incorporated in 1848. It was encouraged and aided by endowments from William and Leonard Case, the latter in 1867 giving \$20,000 for an endowment fund. Case block, in which the rooms of Case Library are situated, was built with special reference to the needs of the library, and in 1876 Mr. Leonard Case presented the property, worth \$300,000, to the association by a deed of gift. In acknowledgment of this magnificent gift, the name of the association was changed in 1880, and it has since been known as the Case Library. The annual income is \$20,000. The rooms of the library have been enlarged from time to time, and all the valuable new books are purchased as published. A freedom to members of the association is granted which would not be possible in the larger public library. The book-shelves are open, and the reader helps himself. A chief attraction is the good breeding of those who attend. Nowhere else in Cleveland will you see such a quiet and considerate people. - Condensed from the Plaindealer.

Cleveland (0.) P. L. A member of the Board of Education strongly urges the sale of the present property on Euclid Avenue, with 104 ft. front, for \$1200 a foot, or \$124,800, and the purchase of an 80 ft. lot elsewhere for \$24,000, which he claims can easily be done, leaving \$100,000 in the hands of the Board for the erection of a suitable fire-proof building for the library, valued at \$90,000, and for the \$10,000 worth of school furniture belonging to the Board, all of which is now exposed to fire in a poor building with insufficient insurance.

England. Mr. T: Greenwood sends a letter to the Times, in which he says: "There is so universal a desire for information on the subject of free libraries that I can quite understand Lady John Manners being overwhelmed with correspondence from those in various parts of the country anxious to promote the movement. We are so much behind America, Germany, and France in the number of these useful institutions that there is great need for a general awakening, and members of Parliament and others possessing influence would do well to take up the subject for their respective districts where these institutions do not already exist. Free libraries are no longer luxuries, but absolute necessities, and there is a consensus of opinion that they have become the indispensable corollary of our system of educa-

Kansas City (Mo.) P. L. A consignment of over two hundred volumes, mostly English works on art, has just been received, making more than a thousand volumes added during the summer. The selection was made with special reference to making more complete the art department, and in this particular the value of the library has been greatly enhanced.

Mrs. J. S. Whitney, librarian, expects to have the catalog completed by Sept. 1. The library was established a little over ten years ago. When Mrs. Whitney was appointed librarian, five years ago, there were but 1500 vols. on the shelves. There will be over 15,000 vols. at the disposal of the public when the library reopens. Among these are 1500 works of fiction, 1000 v. in the children's department, 1200 works of reference and the same number of historical works, about 700 dramatic works, 1500 biographical and historical memoirs, and 500 works on art. An excellent showing for five years' work.

Littleton, Mass. The Reuben Hoar Library building was dedicated July 28. Hon. J: D. Long, Hon. G: S. Boutwell, and Hon. C: H. Allen made addresses.

The new building is conveniently arranged for a town hall and a public library. The hall will seat 600 people comfortably; the library already contains 2400 volumes of standard literature. It is on what is known as the "Old Common," and was built at a cost of about \$11,000. It is heated by a furnace and lighted by gas.

New Haven (Ct.) P. L. The popularity of the new library is so great, and the demand for books so steady, that scores of people have to be disappointed daily, at being unable to get any of the books they want, because they are "out." With only 3000 volumes on the shelves, there is no wonder that the greater the popularity, the greater dissatisfaction among the disappointed ones.

New York City. I. R. P., in a communication to the N. Y. Magazine for July, on "Making the libraries more useful," says: "I wish that some wealthy man, who desires to be a benefactor of his race, would endow a central exchange for making available the treasures that are stored in this city. We have several excellent libraries, differing in purpose and character, and each supplying a particular need. But no one of them is perfect, and as yet no system has been devised by which they are made to supplement each other." A book not found in one library " might be found in some other library of the city, if the seeker for it only knew which one to visit." "What I suggest is a central bureau at which shall be kept catalogs of all the libraries of the city which are available for use by the student or scholar, with separate catalogs of books to be found only in a single library. Another plan might be to make one great card-catalog of all the books in all the public libraries of the city, indicating on each card at which of the libraries the book could be found. Either plan would involve a great deal of work, and that is why I suggest an endowment. If no central bureau like that described can be established, is it not possible for the different librarians to have some system of mutual exchange by which the same thing may be accomplished? If, for instance, there was to be found in each library a card-catalog of books not to be found upon its own shelves, but which are upon the shelves of some other library



THE NEW TALCOTT LIBRARY.

(At Mordy's North field School.)

of the city, an immense amount of labor would be saved to those prosecuting literary researches." He goes on to make a sensible and practical suggestion to librarians and purchasing committees in regard to the selection of new books, remarking that "if it were understood that each library should, within certain limits, avoid as much as possible the duplication of books owned by others, each would have more funds available for the purchase of books in its particular line, and the aggregate treasures of literature in the city would more rapidly increase."

New York City, Mercantile Library. It has been the custom of the Mercantile Library for many years, says the Graphic, to supply books to responsible persons when either temporarily out of the city, or when living in the country and apart from library facilities. It can readily be seen that this branch of literary work might easily become very important. The out-of-town patrons would generally be more dependent upon and attached to such privileges than would those in the city, and the clientèle of a library would in this way be indefinitely extended, and whatever good work libraries do in civilization would be more than correspondingly increased. But the postage on books is too high to make this sort of distribution practicable; those that can afford to pay the postage can generally afford to buy the The cheap postage movement has not affected the charge on books, which is just eight times as much as the charge on newspapers, magazines, etc.

New York City, Y. M. C. A. The board of directors have decided to erect a new central building further up-town than the present building at 23d St. and 4th Ave., which latter will be made a branch of the Assoc, under a board of management separate from the Assoc, board of

directors. The Library, now numbering over 35,000 vols., will be transferred to the new central building, and will be largely increased by works on the fine arts, architecture, etc., and will be made circulating, under the management of the present librarian, R. B. Poole. The location of the new building is not yet settled. It will contain only the library and the offices of the Association directors.

Northampton (Mass.), The Forbes Lib. The trustees are anxious to secure leave from the city council to build when they think best. If they are not allowed to build until the end of the ten years' period fixed by the town, they can go ahead on the Turner lot at that time. They now have on hand about \$80,000, which can be used in erecting the building, outside of the land, which cost \$20,000. This they say will erect a building large enough to hold the books now in the Clarke library building, and allow an increase of 5000 volumes a year for 30 years, when the library would have about 200,000 volumes. They think this is looking far enough ahead, and that the present generation ought to have some of the benefits of this money.

Omaha (Neb.) P. L. The World protests emphatically against transferring the public library or the board of education to rooms in the city hall. "Decency and good morals," it claims, "imperatively demand a building for the public library, to be used only for educational purposes, to which any one can go without a shock to the most fastidious. We are not so poor as to compel our wives and children to witness scenes and jostle the criminal and vicious from whom we would withdraw them as far as possible. Whatever else is done with the library it should be kept out of the city hall."

Philadelphia. The trustees of the University of Pa. have resolved to erect a large and splendid library building on the grounds belonging to the institution in West Philadelphia. The plans include accommodations for a library of 333,640 volumes, and a theatre in which commencement exercises may be held and classic plays performed, similar to the theatre at Oxford, England. A fair beginning towards raising the necessary funds has already been made. The new library will consist of three large wings radiating from a common centre. Each of these wings will have two galleries and will be lighted by sloping glass roofs. Where the wings converge a series of reading-rooms has been arranged, also dressingrooms and a large and commodious periodicalroom. The theatre is to be placed immediately contiguous to the reading-rooms, the stage backing on the passages, with spacious corridors running around the entire building. The auditorium will be circular in form, with galleries, and will give seating accommodation to 1500 people. A fine lobby will run along the entire back of the auditorium, and the stage, 24 x 40 feet, will be surrounded by roomy dressing-rooms.

Pittsburg (Pa.), The Carnegie Lib. The Dispatch voices a singular opposition to the establishment of the Carnegie Library; saying: "The matter of giving \$250,000, is not a small one, neither is the foisting of an annual appropriation of \$15,000 a year on the city much less serious. In the short space of sixteen years this appropriation will have equalled the original sum, and will have doubled it in 35 years, and so on. If not a big affair just now it would be long before the present generation has passed away. It objects to calling it The Carnegie Library because "it would never get any bequests from John Smith or William Brown, because they will not want to see their good money going to feed the flame of another man's glory

"The great question is, however; does Pittsburgh need a library? It has been pretty conclusively shown heretofore that it does not; at least not merely a library. If the library had a good technical school connected with it, including a complete laboratory, an art department, workshops and facilities for training men and women for the active duties of life, it would be of some use. ... It is not necessary to stop here to argue the question of a practical school. Every one knows that our colleges are failures as far as fitting men for the fields of labor that are now opening. Graduates from Yale and Harvard are above going into a machine-shop and getting their hands dirty, or climbing around in a dark mine, or even facing the dust and grime of a rollingmill. For this reason many of them read law, some play poker, and others hunt for rich wives. The simple truth is that their education unfits them for the work that is to be done.

"The same argument, in a modified form, applies to our common schools. Boys and girls go away from them less fitted to make honest livings for themselves than if they had spent the time learning trades. The boys cannot handle a hammer or saw, and the girls can neither cook nor

sew." [The columns of the Dispatch could be better filled with appeals to other wealthy Pittsburghers to establish the technical school it calls for, than with such gratuitous flings at the higher education and with opposition to Mr. Carnegie's munificent library gift. — C: A. N.]

Pittsburg (Pa.), Mercantile Lib. Judge Ewing in a recent decision in the Court of Common Pleas No. 2, gave judgment against the Mercantile Library Hall Association for \$7.45.20 in favor of the city of Pittsburg, on account of back taxes, from which the defendant claimed it was exonerated both by special legislation and by the provisions of its own charter. The court shows that the defendant was chartered in 1859, and that by anact passed in 1864 the real and personal property of this and other corporations was exempted from city taxation, but it further shows that the constitution of 1873 repealed this act and made this institution liable for city and other taxes.

Providence (R. I.) F. P. Lib. The following would seem to indicate a new building for the library. At the meeting of the Board of Aldermen held April 19, there was introduced and referred to the joint standing committee on Public Library the following:

"Whereas, Application has been made to the Board of Trustees of the Free Public Library by the committee on the erection of a Memorial Building for the use of the Grand Army of the Republic and the Free Public Library, to have the privileges of the library extended to the citizens of Central Falls, residing within the limits of the Fire District so-called, upon the payment by said district of such proportional part of the annual expense of maintaining said Library as may be agreed upon by the City Council and the said Fire District, it is therefore

"Resolved, That we approve of the aforesaid proposition, and recommend favorable action concerning the same on the part of the City Council."

The committee on the Public Library advertised a public hearing, which was attended only by a quorum of the committee and the reporters. The committee voted to recommend the passage of the resolution.

Richmond (Va.) State Lib. The library was founded in Jan., 1823, and the books were selected with great judgment and knowledge of the needs of the student. Who chose them is not now known, but his critical taste is often the subject of admiring remark by those who know how widely and well the foundations of the library were laid. It now contains about 3800 volumes, housed in a pleasant room commanding an extensive view of the city, river, field, and forest. The Times of July 10 gives over a column to a description of some of its rarities.

Saint Paul (Minn.). The Globe of July 17 devotes a column to a description of some of the rare books belonging to the library of the late Judge Aaron Goodrich. It is especially rich in works relating to the early discoveries in America by Columbus and other navigators. There are about 2500 volumes and a large number of pam-

phlets. It is the intention of the heirs to have the books carefully examined and cataloged. The valuation is put at \$50,000, and Judge Goodrich is said to have spent nearly this sum in making the collection.

San Francisco P. L. At the meeting of the directors July 1, the balance in the Library fund was \$8171.99 less \$1888.05 the audited expenses for June. A resolution asking the Supervisors for an appropriation was withdrawn upon the statement by Mayor Pond that there was no surplus from which to make an appropriation, and that the application should have been presented before the lax levy was made. This makes rather a bad financial outlook for the Library. A request by the Librarian to be allowed to purchase 529 vols. as per list presented was not acted upon. reported," says the *Chronicle*, "that librarian Perkins will soon hand in his resignation, which, there is no doubt, will be at once accepted by the board of directors." At the examination of the monthly batch of bills in July, the chairman discovered that the trustees had been paying a brokerage of 15 per cent. to a woman for placing their insurance. He came to the conclusion that he would place it himself in the future and save that much to the city.

Springfield (Mass.) City Lib. Assoc. The directors at a meeting July 11 adopted a memorial statement in remembrance of the late Charles Merriam, closing with: "This board gratefully remembers to-day his devotion to the interests of the city library, and especially remembers his earnest endeavors to secure to the community the establishment of a free circulating library with an increasingly valuable department of reference, made possible by an endowment fund, and they desire to express their high sense of his great services to the public in his untiring advocacy of this object, and his generous contributions in its Mr. Merriam gave \$5000 for the erection of the library building, and from time to time donations of books and of money for buying works of reference. He one year paid the subscriptions of all persons from 16 to 18 years of age applying for cards. He subsequently gave \$1000, the interest to be used for free cards. He also gave the first \$5000 to the endowment fund for making the library free.

Troy (N. Y.) Young Men's Assoc. It is proposed to transfer the Gale alcove and that part of the library now located on the first floor to the second floor, where there are ample accommodations for the entire library and reading-rooms. The large entrance hall will be extended through the building, and that part of the main floor now occupied by the reading-room and library will be fitted up for offices, thus increasing the rentals of the Association.

Washington (D.C.). The Federation of Labor Unions and District Assembly No. 66, Knights of Labor, representing more than fifty labor organizations, have issued an appeal to citizens and residents of Washington, asking for the means to establish in that city a free circulating library, with reading-rooms, similar to those in other

large cities. Several prominent business men have consented to act with the workingmen's committee and have appended their names to the appeal. It is surely time that a free library should be established at the nation's capital, and the movement should have speedy success.

Washington (D. C.), Library of Congress. Mr. J. N. Smithmeyer, architect, is reported in the N. Y. World as saying: "Having secured a splendid site east of the Capitol grounds and secured money enough to start with, we are going ahead with the digging. There are 73,000 cubic yards to be excavated. The building is to cover about 11,000,000 square feet of area, 21,000 more than the area covered by the State, War, and Navy departments. The reading-room will be four feet larger in diameter than the rotunda of the Capitol, We'll get the concrete foundations in this fall, let them settle during the winter, and begin building next spring. Congress will appropriate as the work goes along, but I cannot tell when it will be done. The present designs will accommodate 2,500,000 volumes, but whenever the time comes that more space is needed, the adjoining corridors and alcoves, where the copyright pictures, plans, etc., will be hung, can be used for the spread of the library proper, until, if necessary, 8,000,000 volumes can be placed within the walls,'

The buildings on the site are now nearly all demolished. The commission and architect have their offices in the Lincoln house, and the French house will be used for a time for government purposes. The commission has received a large number of samples of granite and marble from quarries all over the country, which will be thoroughly tested before a stone is selected for the building.

Windsor (N. H.) L. E. N. Goddard, the librarian, writes to a local newspaper that in the last half year the reading is less in quantity but improved in quality. He adds: "There must be many books locked up in private bookcases, which do the present owners but little good, which would be most desirable in the library. don't you let us have them? This applies particularly to books by or about Vermont or New Hampshire people, pamphlets, and files or volumes of local papers, etc., etc. Books published at Windsor and Burlington, and at Claremont, N. H., are particularly wished for. There are, for instance, probably several copies of Hagar's Geology of Vermont, of Thompson's Vermont and Lawrence's New Hampshire Churches, and the book called "New Hampshire as it is," somewhere in Windsor. At least one of each of these should be in the library, but is not."

#### PRACTICAL NOTES.

To separate the leaves of charred books or deeds, a French official has devised the following means: Cut off the back of the charred book so as to render the leaves absolutely independent from one another, then soak them, and dry them rapidly by a current of hot air. The leaves will then separate, but must, of course, be handled with extreme care.

#### Gifts and Bequests.

Aix. Dr. Marguery has bequeathed 20,000 fr. to the Bibliothèque Méjanes for the purchase of books.

Bern. The city library is to have the books of the late Dr. Bernhard Studer, Professor of Geology.

Littleton, Mass. In the spring of 1885, a proposition was made to the town by some person, whose name was then unknown, offering \$10,000 for a library upon certain conditions. One condition was, that the town should raise \$10,000 for the building, and make an annual appropriation of \$2500 for running expenses; another was that the institution should be called the Reuben Hoar Library; and a third, that the name of the donor should remain unknown. At a special meeting the town accepted the offer, voted the necessary amount, and selected a site. At the dedication, July 28, the chairman read the following letter:

"About fifty years ago a resident of Littleton became involved and was obliged to fail in business. Reuben Hoar, being his largest creditor, was made assignee. Upon looking over the assets and finding that if sufficient time was given, they might realize just about enough to pay the debts in full, Mr. Hoar said to the man, 'I will make you my agent; go on, collect and distribute until you have paid all their just dues, and if there is nothing left I will furnish you with capital to start again.' For some two years the business was managed with the most rigid economy, during which time Mr. Hoar proved wise in counsel and generous in help. When the estate had been settled, leaving a sufficient surplus to pay Mr. Hoar his legal and proper commission as assignee, he refused all compensation. It is from the careful use of that small residue by two generations that the means have been acquired with which to found this library in honor of Reuben Hoar. " BY THE DONOR."

Providence P. L. In the late annual report mention was made of "a generous gift" of which the library had "not yet come into possession." It was the private library of Mr. Albert J. Jones, formerly of Providence, but for many years past residing in Italy. Mr. Jones's death occurred before the books could be shipped to their destination, but they have just arrived at the library. As no very definite details had been received concerning the nature and the extent of the collection, the result is a most agreeable surprise, not only as regards the number, but especially the value of the books. The whole number of volumes is 670, and these are evidently from deliberate choice distributed through all classes of reading - literature, history, biography, geography, philosophical science and theology, natural science, practical science, social and political science, and art. About 100 volumes of them are dictionaries and other works of reference, and the collection as a whole evidently constituted a good "all-around library for a European scholar." Mr. Jones not only used an intelligent judgment in gathering around him the representative Italian authors, but also a cultivated taste in the selection of editions. - Prov. Jour., July 13, 1887.

#### Librarians.

CERROTI, Francesco, librarian of the Biblioteca Corsiniana and the Biblioteca Sartiana, died last February. A sketch of his life by Giuseppe Cugnoni, from La scuola romana, an. 5, has been issued, Roma, 1887, 9 p. O. His "Bibliografia di Roma," the work of 30 years, is shortly to be issued in 4 v., Q., 20 lire each.

COE, Miss Ellen M., librarian of the New York Free Circulating Library, sailed July 20, on the City of Rome, on a two months' leave of absence in Europe.

Davis, Olin S., has been appointed librarian of the Topeka (Kan.) Free Library. Mr. Davis served three months at Chicago under Mr. Poole's personal direction in the summer of '84. Then he was two years at Columbia College Library, eight months at the Library Bureau, and has spent a month with Mr. Foster making special investigations and supplementing his previous training. The Topeka Commonwealth gives Mr. Davis a regular Western "send-off" as follows: "Librarian Davis, of the Topeka public library, for such he now is, was brought up in the Chicago public library, has filled the responsible position of librarian in Columbia College, New York, and when engaged to come to Topeka was librarian of the Providence, R. I., public library."

McKee, T. H., for many years an assistant in the Senate document-room, has been appointed assistant librarian of the Senate, vice Col. Frank H. Alfriend, deceased. The vacancy in the document-room has also been filled by the appointment of Mr. Grandstaff, of Virginia, upon the recommendation of Senator Riddleberger.—Baltimore Sun.

Morrison, Hew, schoolmaster at Brechin, has been appointed principal librarian of the Edinburgh P. L. There were 52 candidates, among them several librarians of recognized ability and long experience in library work.

The General Committee of the Edinburgh Public Library met June 27, to make the appointment of librarian. Professor Calderwood thereupon moved the appointment as librarian of Mr. Hew Morrison, Brechin, He was a gentleman who by his whole tastes and dispositions would feel himself in sympathy with all the educational arrangements of their city, and especially would seek to render a great free library an aid to their new Heriot-Watt College and their technical schools. Mr. J. Grant moved the appointment of Mr. W. Haggerstone, librarian, Newcastle-on-Tyne. He said he thought it was not now a question of degree between the candidates - they were working on a question of principle - a principle which lay in Professor Masson's letter. Professor Masson told him two or three weeks ago that if the library had been started, and in good working order, there would be little danger in electing, what he (Mr. Grant) would term "a country gentleman," but that as the library had to be created, it was necessary to appoint one of the professional applicants. After discussion as to the advisableness of delaying a vote on account of the absence of several members, the meeting resolved

to proceed. The Lord Provost expressed his willingness to make the appointment unanimously, but Mr. Grant adhered to his amendment. Mr. Morrison was elected librarian by 8 votes to 3. The Lord Provost subsequently said that he was sure they would all welcome Mr. Morrison.

[Applause.] Mr. Morrison states in his letter of application that he is 37 years of age, that he is a native of Sutherland, that he attended the Free Church Normal School in Edinburgh, that in 1871 he passed the Government examination for his certificate as a teacher, that in 1875 he was appointed to the school of the Parish Board of Brechin, and that in 1878 he was appointed to the head mastership of the Smith's School, Brechin. He further explains that he is a director of the Mechanics' Institution, Brechin, and a member of the Library Committee, that he has bought and selected books to a considerable extent, that he has some experience in compiling catalogues, and that he has visited some of the leading libraries in London, Glasgow, and elsewhere to study their arrangements. He is a Fellow of the Society of Antiquaries, and is an author of historical and antiquarian works.

PERKINS, Frederic Beecher. A special telegram to the New York *Tribune* of Aug. 10, announces the resignation of Mr. Perkins as librarian of the San Francisco Public Library, and the appointment of John Vance Cheney, the poet, as his successor.

WICKERSHAM, W. B., secretary of the Public Library Board of Chicago, was made acting librarian after August I, and until some future action in selecting a permanent librarian is taken. At the same meeting of the Board, July 23, Mr. Wickersham was re-elected secretary for the sixteenth time.

#### Cataloging and Classification.

Fumagalli, Gius. Cataloghi di biblioteche e indici bibliografici: mem. premiata dal min. della istruz. pub. nel I. concorso bibliografico. Firenze, G. C. Sansoni, 1887. 18+199. 8°.

Contents: Cenni prelim. Norme per la compilazione delle schede. Dei cataloghi in gen. e dell' alfabetico in partic. Del catal. metodico. Del catal. reale.— Biblioteca di bibliog. e paleog. We shall have more to say of this hereafter.

LIVERPOOL FREE P. L. Catalogue of the reference department. Part 4: books received from Jan. 1884 to Dec. 1886. Liverpool, 1887. 3 l. + 380 p. Q.

Vol. 1, 1872, by S: Huggins; 2, 1881; 3, 1884. Vols. 2, 3, 4, are by P: Cowell. "The best testimony to the value of the catalogues is the continual applications for copies from the free public libraries in all parts of the kingdom," says Sir J. A. Picton, chairman of the library committee.

MILWAUKER (Wis.) P. L. Systematic catalogue, with alphabetical author, title, and subject indexes. 1885. Milw., 1885-86. 2 l. + 160 + [1] p. + 1672 col. + 34 + [1] p.

We ought to have noticed this important catalog before. But when it first came out Mr. Dewey offered to review it for us. The cares of his library and the School of Library Economy have made it impossible for him to fulfil this promise, and now that the "annual report" on cataloging will be laid before the Association next month, we must restrict ourselves to a few words.

It is hardly necessary to say that the catalog, being the work of Mr. Linderfelt and Miss West, is made with the greatest care.

The apparatus for finding books is complete—a systematic subject and form catalog, with a subject-index, an author-index, which includes anonymous and indefinite titles, a title-list of fiction for novels, and a title-list of drama for plays, a biographical index, which includes all the essays in the library. What more could be wanted to enable one to find author, title, subject, form, or person? It would seem as though he who with the aid of such a catalog could not find what he wanted, if it was in the library, would not have sufficient intellect to have profited by it if he could have found it.

New Haven Free P. L. Catalogue. New Haven, 1887. 151 p. O.

Title-a-liner. Dictionary. The notation is an ingenious modification of the decimal. All the classes but three have the Dewey class-marks. The three exceptions are Fiction, in which there is no class-mark but Cutter author-marks, and Biography and Juveniles, in which class-marks are B and J, with Cutter author marks. For example:

Barr's Daughter of Fife	B27.2
Beer's Life of Willis	B W67 A
James's Gypsy	J23.1
Knox's Japan and China (Boy travel-	
lers)	J K75 B4
Bishop's Japan	9152 A

Newburgh Free L. Suppl 2. Catalogue, Nov., 1879 to May 1887. Newburgh, N. Y., 1887. 118 p. O.

PROVIDENCE (A. A.) P. L. 2d suppl. to the finding list. Prov., 1887. 2 l. + 122 p. l. O. Inclosed is a two-page list of "Anonymous and pseudonymous titles. Information wanted,"

#### INDEXES.

Indice delle opere che furono publicate dall' illustre filosofo pesarese Terenzio Marmiani DELLA ROVERE. Pesaro, Annesio Nobili, 1887. 15 p. 8°. 50 cents.

Instances of carelessness occur in the index [of M. M. Kirkman's Handling of railway supplies, Chicago, 1887.] from which we select a few headings by way of illustration: Cause of envy; Effect of climate on coal—of envy—of saving; Facilities,

lack of; Fruit of riches; How to acquire wealth. In one sense these are trifles, but they indicate slovenly preparation which seriously detracts from the merit of the book.—Nation, June 30, '87.

The Journal of the Franklin Institute is to have an index to v. 1-110. Subscriptions are solicited at \$5.

N. Y. M. C. A. The Association Library, which is at present in the Twenty-third St. building, contains over 35,000 volumes. It will be transferred to the new Central Building, except such books as will be required for a reference library. The Central library will be greatly increased by works on the fine arts, architecture, etc., and will be made circulating, under the management of the present librarian, R. B. Poole. The location for the new building is not settled yet, but it will contain only the circulating library and the business offices of the Association Directors.

#### Dibliografn.

ADAMS, Herbert B. Notes on the literature of charities. Balt., Aug. 1887, 48 p. 8°. (No. 8 of 5th ser. of Johns Hopkins Univ. stud.)

Not a mere bibliography, but interesting and valuable notes.

Berger-Levrault, Oscar. Catalogue des Alsatica de la bibliothèque de O. B. Strasb., 1887. 7 v. 8°. 20 fr.

Contents. Vol. 1. 17e et 18e siècles. 8+113 p.
2. Intendance d'Alsace. Arrêtés de promulgation. 30+161 p. 3. Intendance d'Alsace. Ordonnances autonomes et Circulaires. 2+115 p.
4. Administrations diverses. Du 17e au 19e
siècle. 2+85 p. 5. Administration centrale du
Bas-Rhin. Révolution française. 12+183 p.
6. 19e siècle. 2+223 p. 7. Publications non
alsatiques. 1676-1815. 2+145 p.

"Les sept volumes sont l'inventaire minuteux de tout ce que l'importante maison de commerce, dirigée successivement par les Schmuck, les Christmann, les Levrault, et les Berger, a fait sortir de ses propres presses, dans le cours de deux siècles, et de ce qu'elle a édité d'impressions dites au dehors. L'auteur n'a point admis d'étrangers dans ces archives de famille, c'est-à-dire que sa collection ne comprend aucun ouvrage relatif à l'Alsace dont ses ancêtres ou lui n'aient été les imprimeurs ou les éditeurs responsables."

BULLETIN bibliographique de la librairie française. No. 2, mai 1887. Paris, cover+23 p.

O.

Quarterly, I fr. a year. Classified; with ex-

planatory notes. Chiefly intended for foreign export.

Greece, J. E. Sandys' "Easter vacation in Greece, London, 1887," 175 p., D., contains a list of "books on Greek travel and topography," p. 113-144.

JAHRES-VERZEICHNISS der an den deutschen Universitäten ersch. Schriften. 1: 15 Aug. 1885-14 Aug. 1886. Berlin, A. Asher, 1887. [4]+238 p. 8°. 5 m.

Printed on good paper in large, clear type. The Universities are in alfabetical order, and under each are the headings: a. Statuten, etc.; b. Personalverzeichnisse; c. Vorlesungsverzeichnisse; d. Urtheile über Preisbewerbungen; e. Inauguraldissertationen und Thesen (arranged according to the Faculties); f. Habilitations-schriften; g. Gelegenheits - und Vermischte Schriften. An Autoren-Register of 18 p. ends the volume.

NELSON, C: Alex. Library economy and statistics. (Pages 474-478 of Appletons' Annual Cyclopædia for 1886, N. Y., 1887, O.)

Mr. Nelson also wrote the article N. Y. city free circulating libraries (p. 640-652).

Liessem's, Dr. Herm. Jos., "Hermann von dem Busche, Köln, 1887," 8 p., 4°, contains a "Bibliog. Verz. d. Schriften Hermanns."

LIPPE, Ch. D. Bibliographisches Lexicon der gesammten jüdischen Literatur der Gegenwart m. Einschluss der Schriften üb. Juden u. Judenthum. Bücher- u. Zeitschriften-Catalog [1880-1887] neu erschienener u. neu aufgelegter Schriften, m. besond. Berücksicht. der einschläg. Publicationen auch nichtjüd. Autoren. Mit genauer Angabe der Autoren, Verleger, Format, Seitenzahl u. Preise; nebst Adress-Anzeiger, enth. e. lexicalisch geordnetes Schema m. Adressen v. Rabbinen, Predigern, Professoren, Cantoren, Freunden u. Förderern der jüd. Literatur in allen Welttheilen, in chronolog. Anordng. u. Reihenfolge dargestellt. 2. Bd., 1. Lfg., gr. 8°. (96 S.) Wien, Lippe, 1887. n. 1.20.

REHER, Aug. Titel-Verzeichniss der neuen erzählenden u. volkstümlich-wissenschaftlichen Werke in deutscher Sprache, nach den Schlagwörtern alphabetisch geordnet. 2. u. 3. Lfg. (49–144 p.) Altona, Reher, 1887. 8°. à —75. REUSCH, F. H. Die Indices librorum prohibitorum des 16. Jahrhunderts ges. u. herausg. Tüb., Lit. Verein, 1887. 595 p. 8°.

The New Spalding Club (Aberdeen) desires "to obtain as complete a bibliography as possible of the materials in or relating to the [north-eastern counties of Scotland], which are in any way calculated to elucidate and enrich their history.

"First, it is necessary to repair as far as is yet possible the oversight of our predecessors in failing to preserve, systematically, contemporaneous documents. As materials for history these are much more trustworthy and satisfactory than oral traditions or histories compiled some time after the events. In the second place, it is necessary that, with regard to the events of our own time, steps be taken to provide the future historical student with such full and faithful materials as can be procured.

"In carrying out the former of these objects, the effort should be to obtain the co-operation of as many workers as possible scattered over the length and breadth of the district, who may be willing to hunt up, and, if possible, secure such written or printed documents, bearing on the history of our region, as have survived the accidents of time and the ignorance or indifference of their possessors. If this were done on an extensive and systematic scale, and especially if attention were directed to the repositories of old family houses and farm-houses, there is reason to think that the results might be surprisingly satisfactory, and that documents of historical value, whose very existence is at present unknown, or little more than known, might be brought to light; while, with regard to others, fuller and more accurate information might now be obtained. Should this fortunately prove to be the case, there can be little doubt that the possessors of such works will be ready to second the Club in its endeavors to have them duly recorded, and if possible placed where they can be easily accessible to present and future students. In the case where for any reason the owners are unwilling to part with their property, it would be desirable to have, along with the strict bibliographical account of the works, an intimation of the owners' names, and such information respecting the works and their authors as can be gleaned.

"In carrying out the second object above mentioned, the aim in the first place should be to encourage the preservation of local publications which have just ceased to be of present value and use, but as yet have not passed into the state of venerable dignity and worth. This is the crucial stage in the history of all published works, and in their passage through it many a volume disappears, of which the historical student has to mourn the loss. In the next place, in furtherance of the same object, a systematic effort should be made to record the current publications of the day which have any literary or historic connection with the district. Under this designation are included not only books and pamphlets printed and published in it, or written by natives of it, though printed elsewhere; but also such publications as playbills, programmes of public ceremonies, civic and political squibs, and similar productions which are generally held to have only an ephemeral interest, but which, systematically collected and arranged, will be greatly valued by our successors for the interesting and valuable light they shed on the ideas, manners, and life of

"It is an essential part of the scheme now proposed that a suitable repository be provided for the safe custody and convenient exhibition of books or documents of the kind just mentioned. Fortunately on this score there need be no difficulty, the establishment of a Public Library in the city of Aberdeen at once suggesting an appropriate and easily accessible home."

Mr. A. W. Robertson, Librarian of the Public Library of Aberdeen, has kindly offered to undertake the compilation of the work. To him, accordingly, all documents or other communications bearing on the subject should meanwhile be addressed. G, VALLAT'S Etude sur la vie de 1: Moore, Paris, Rousseau, 1887, 2 + 295 p., 8°, 6 fr., contains a "bibliographie complète."

Vallée, Léon. Bibliographie des bibliographies Supplément. Paris, Em. Terquem, 1887. 21+ 354 n. O.

In the prospectus of this Supplément the publisher spoke of "l'accuiel bienveillant, fait en 1884. par le publie lettoré" to the original work. He should have said, "le publie lettré français." The French critics as a matter of course knew nothing of Petzholdt's much superior work, and no doubt imagined Vallée to be a pioneer deserving of all the consideration due to one who can get no assistance from predecessors. We do not recollect seeing any German criticisms, but they could hardly have been favorable, for many Germans know how a bibliography should be made, and could not fail to see that M. Vallée did not. In England Mr. Tedder, in Notes and queries, pointed out his insufficiency, and in this country, tho the N. Y. author catalogs have persistently recommended the work in long notes, the Nation showed its defective method and noted many omissions, and the LIBRARY TOURNAL noted a score more. In the supplement M. Vallée has not profited by either of these notices, showing that he is not well acquainted with the sources of bibliographical information, which was the objection that we brought against him before. What he had done was, on the whole, well done, but the gaps were too numerous. This time we have another objection to make. He has unduly extended his field of work to include library economy, and drawings, engravings, and even paintings, a proceeding which tho, by the easy harvest it offers of obvious titles, it increases the apparent fulness of the list, really makes its incompleteness very much greater in proportion to the ground it undertakes to cover. However, it will, probably, take in the many critics who extended an "accueil bienveillant" to the original work.

#### Anonyms and Psendonyms.

Carle de Rash, ps. of Charles Read as founder and editor of "L'intermédiare des chercheurs et des curieux," 1864-85 incl. — O. Uzanne in "Nos amis les livres," p. 5.

Demos, London, Smith & Elder, 1886, was by G: Gissing, who acknowledges the authorship in his lately published Thyrza.

Evan Stanton. Mr. Frank W. Hoyt, says the Critic, literary editor of the Albany Argus, calls our attention to the fact that the authorship of Evan Stanton's "Ruhainah" has recently been attributed in several papers to Mr. Lew Vanderpoole. He tellsus — what we already knew — that "Evan Stanton" is the nom de plume of the Rev. T. P. Hughes, an English clergyman now resident in this country, and the author of a valuable "Dictionary of Islam." We have the very best reason for knowing the book to be Mr. Hughes's.

M. N. Quépart, ps. of René Paquet in Dict. biog. de l'anc. dépt. de la Moselle, Paris, A. Picard, 1887, 600 p. 8°. — Polybiblion, Madge Eliot, of Harper's magazine and Young people, is the wife of the artist Sol Eytinge. — Pub. weekly.

Through the gates of gold, Roberts Bros., is said to be by a young lady named Mabel Collins, and it is reported that she is also the author of "Light on the path," published by Cupples & Hurd.

Inauguration of the statue of Warren by the Bunker Hill Monument Association, June 17, 1857, Boston, 1858, 8+223+[1] p., was prepared by W: Wilder Wheildon.

A week away from time, Boston, Roberts Bros., 1887. The authors were: Poetical prelude, Mrs. James T. Fields; Preface, filling in, and Story of a voice, Mrs. James Lodge; Lawyer's story, Mrs. E. E. Pratt; Palace of the closed window, Owen Wister; Happiness, Mrs. H: Whitman; Improvisatore (a real letter), John Field; Translation of Story of the necklace, Arthur Dexter; War time, unknown.

#### finmors and Banders.

From Lowe's English catalogue, 1872-80, p. 7:

AIRY, Sir G. B., Undulatory theory of optics.

Fairy Lilian.

Some memorable patrons of the Kansas City Public Library. The 12-year-old boy who read nothing but art books.

The pretty girl who asked for "Moses from an Old Manse."

The convalescent who sent a note asking for "Joe Sephus or some other good novel."

Tales during four years of frequent and extended

The man who is reading straight through the Encyclopædia Britannica and has reached the middle of the third volume.

The leisurely individual who came regularly and early, took off his shoes, and settled himself by the stove for a full day's reading.

The practical joker who advertised for a governess and set the library for a meeting-place. A dozen women waited all day for him, but he never

The young man who came every day for six months, reading never less than fifteen volumes daily. Novels and essays were his favorite pabulum, and he read several books again and again.

The singular person who came every day during three winters and pored over Eggleston's Hoosier Schoolmaster all day long. He called it "Eaglestone's Huesyer Skulemaster," and never read anything else.

The middle-aged lady who came every morning and read novels all day. She always asked for "the last novel I had yesterday," and invariably failed to recollect anything whatever about the book, its tiple, or the author.

The big, chubby, baby-faced boy with fringe on his trousers, a sombrero on his head, and a pair of big pistols in his belt. He came frequently to read the newspapers and confidentially told everybody, who appeared interested in him, that he had "killed many a man" and had a generally gory record.

#### American Library Association.

#### ITINERARY.

Monday, August 29.—Leave Boston, B. &. A. station, at 8:30 a.m. (Ticket to Quebec \$12.15.) The New York party leaves the Grand Central station at 10:30 a.m. Arrive at Round Island House at 10:25 p.m. (Dinner and supper en route, \$1.00.)

Tuesday to Friday. — At Round Island House, Thousand Islands. (Four and one-half days' board, \$6.75.)

Saturday, September 3.— Leave Round Island at 6:40 a.m., shooting all the St. Lawrence Rapids, and arriving at Montreal at 6:30 p.m. (Dinner on Richelieu steamer, 50c. Carriage and baggage to Windsor Hotel, 50c.)

Sunday, September 4. — Montreal cathedrals, churches, etc. (Drives to principal points of interest, etc., carriage and baggage to train, \$1.50. Hotel, \$3.00.) Leave Montreal, 3:30 p.m., by rail, arriving at Quebec, 9:30 p.m., St. Louis Hotel.

Monday, September 5. — At St. Louis Hotel, Quebec, Drives to Falls of Montmorenci and other points of interest.

Tuesday, September 6. — Leave St. Louis Hotel, 1:30 p.m. for steamer "Miramichi." Leave Quebec, 2:00 p.m. (Hotel, two days, \$5.00. Drives and carriages and baggage in Quebec, \$1.50.)

Tuesday noon to Saturday noon. — On board steamer "Miramichi." (Stateroom, board, and ticket to Pictou, N. S., \$10.00.)

Saturday, September 10. — Arrive at Pictou, N. S., at 11:00 a.m. (Dinner at Pictou Hotel, 50c. Ticket to Boston, \$9,00.) Leave Pictou 1:20 p.m. Arrive at Halifax, 5:00 p.m. Carriage and baggage to Waverley Hotel.

Sunday and Monday, September 11 and 12.

— In Halifax. (Drives, carriages, and baggage to and from hotel, \$1.50. Two and three-quarter days' board, \$6.75.)

Tuesday, September 13.—Leave Halifax by W. & A. R. R. at 7:00 a.m. for Annapolis, connecting with boat for Boston. (Meals and stateroom to Boston, \$4.00.)

Wednesday, September 14.—Arrive in Boston at 5:00 p.m., in time for all lines to New York.

Total expenses for seventeen days, about \$62.6s.

Those who cannot take the Post-Conference excursion should buy regular tickets from Boston or New York. Return tickets can be obtained for one-third fare. This makes the expense to members from Boston, for the round trip, carfare, \$12.60; five days' board at the Islands, \$7.50. From New York, the carfare is \$11.67 only. Total expense for one week at conference, a little over \$20.

The above is the nearest estimate possible as the JOURNAL goes to press. By August 20 a final circular will be ready at the Library Bureau.

The party promises to be unusually large and pleasant for the sea trip, and there are almost no defections from the plan laid out by the committee as most desirable. On the final circular will be given the reduced rate from Boston and New York home, as of course this is included. It may be estimated at two-thirds regular fares.

MELVIL DEWEY, Secretary.

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# 30

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The Library List is a compilation based on the list of libraries compiled by the United States Bureau of Education, and forming part of the Annual Report of the Commissioner of Education, now the Hon. N. H. R. Dawson. It differs from that, however, in eliminating the minor libraries of under a thousand volumes, in adding the names of Librarians, and in classifying, by means of types of different face, libraries of corresponding numbers, as over 50,000, over 10,000, over 5000, and over 1000. There is also added a supplementary list of libraries, made partly by the Bureau of Education and partly from the records of the office of the LIBRARY JOURNAL. In the present shape, with the opportunity given by the printing on alternate pages for correcting and extending the list to any date, it is hoped that this LIBRARY LIST may be of service to all concerned with the library interest.

The LIBRARY LIST includes also the Libraries of Canada and the other British North American Provinces, for which it is indebted to the enterprise and courtesy of James Bain, Jr., Librarian of the Free Public Library, Toronto. This is an addition which we believe will be of great value and interest, as it is, we think, the first careful census of Canadian Libraries.

The distinction by means of type will enable those who have occasion to communicate with libraries to address few or many as they prefer, and many libraries will find it peculiarly useful for exchanging their reports and publications with libraries of corresponding size. The Brooklyn Library, for instance, has used this list, as originally published in the Library Journal, to send its annual report and its musical bulletin to all libraries of over 10,000 volumes in the country.

The LIST may also be recommended to the book-trade as a convenient and reliable address list, inasmuch as it comprises only such institutions as are likely to purchase current publications.

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